FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 239 *12 December 1978*

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Brazilian Foreign Minister Comments on Punta del Este A 1
Briefs: OLADE Signs Cooperation Agreement A 1

ARGENTINA

Chilean Foreign Minister Arrives in Buenos Aires B 1
Political Party Leader Assesses Government B 1
[LA NACION 9 Dec]
Editorial Views Criticism of Economy Minister B 1
[HERALD 4 Dec]
Briefs: Price Increases Reported; Subversives Sentenced; Loan for Yacyreta B 2

BOLIVIA

Foreign Minister Interviewed by Argentine Paper C 1
[LA NACION 9 Dec]

BRAZIL

Navy Chief Predicts Use of Nuclear Power D 1
[JORNAL DO BRASIL 10 Dec]
JORNAL DO BRASIL Views New Venezuelan Regime [5 Dec] D 1
Paper Examines Kissinger Criticism of Carter D 2
[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 6 Dec]
Briefs: Uranium Exploitation D 2

CHILE

Foreign Minister Leaves for Talks in Buenos Aires E 1
Businessmen Assess Effects of Boycott E 1

COLOMBIA

President Turbay Says Country Has No Militaristic Ambitions F 1
Turbay Ayala To Visit USSR in May F 1
Mines Minister Discusses Oil, Gas Exploitation F 1
[EL ESPECTADOR 8 Dec]
Government To Adopt New Energy Policy F 2
Salary Council Partially Resolves Minimum Wage Split F 3
Briefs: Increased Industrial Growth; Record Coffee Exports F 3

ECUADOR

Former Candidate Calderon Munoz Dies in Miami Hospital G 1
FRA Reports Arrest of Calderon Munoz' Murderer G 1
Jaime Roldos Denounces Terrorism, Privileged Persons G 1
Delegation Departs Quito for OPEC Conference G 1

PARAGUAY

Foreign Minister Comments on Plate Basin Conference H 1
[HOY 10 Dec]
3-Day National Human Rights Congress Ends H 1
Opposition Politician Comments H 1
[HOY 11 Dec]
Participants Assess Proceedings H 1
[LA TRIBUNA 10 Dec]
Recommendations Approved H 2
[LA TRIBUNA 11 Dec]
Commentator Criticizes Human Rights Congress H 3

PERU

Copper Mines Suspend Strike in Return for Talks J 1
Prime Minister Warns Opponents of Armed Forces J 1

VENEZUELA

President Perez Notes Stability of Bolivar L 1
Herrera Appoints Head of Military Household L 1
Foreign Minister Reports to President-Elect L 1
Parties To Disappear Due To Insufficient Votes L 1
COPEI To Continue Current Administration's Programs L 2
Cuban Official Received by Venezuelan Communist Leaders [Havana] L 2
Journalists Condemn Government's Seizure of Magazine L 2

PANAMA

Spokesman Denounces Salvadoran Farm Workers' Situation N 1
Commentator Notes Royo's 'Physical Exhaustion' N 2
Commentators Concerned About Canal Zone Budget Cut N 2
Columnist Views Canal Zone Affairs N 3
[CRITICA 7 Dec]
Experts Recommend Study on CIA Communications N 3
U.S. Press Distortion of Panama Criticized N 4
Briefs: Technical Cooperation Agreement; Sugarcane Harvest; N 5
Energy Prices Unchanged

CENTRAL AMERICA

BELIZE

Government, Opposition Assert Right to Independence at UN P 1
[THE BELIZE TIMES 3 Dec]
Rogers Addresses United Nations P 1
[THE BELIZE TIMES 3 Dec]
Pro-Belizean Resolution Adopted by UN Committee P 6
[THE BELIZE TIMES 6 Dec]

COSTA RICA

Security Minister Reports on Trip to Canal Zone P 6
Opposition Party Warns Against Militarization Efforts P 7
[LA NACION 4 Dec]
Youth Tribunal Weighs Evidence Against Somoza P 8
Briefs: Electric Connection With Nicaragua P 9

EL SALVADOR

President Humberto Romero To Visit Mexico 18 January P 9
Archbishop Discusses Priest's Ties With FPL P 9
FARN Threatens To Continue Kidnapings P 10
Guatemalan Consul Killed by Peasants P 10
Briefs: Absence of Coffee Rust P 10

NICARAGUA

Somoza Reads Amnesty Bill To Be Sent to Congress P 11
FAO Meets To Discuss Proposed Amnesty Law P 11
FSLN Faction Urges FAO To Abandon Negotiations P 12
Cardenal Scores Carter Statements on FAO, FSLN P 12
Cardenal Comments Further P 13
Report on Armed Clash, FSLN Unity, New FAO Leader P 14
FSLN Commander Killed in Clash With National Guard P 14

CUBA

Attacks on UN Missions Draw Criticism of CIA Q 1
Costa Rican Legislative Assembly Delegation Arrives for Visit Q 1
FEEM Letter to Castro Stresses Honesty, Hard Work Q 1
Workers To Study Fidel Castro CTC Congress Speech Q 2
Fidel Castro 'Interested' in Visiting Spain [EFE] Q 2
UN Envoy Faults Election in Namibia Q 2
Nicaraguan Government Condemned Again at UN Q 3
Further Reportage on CEMA Metallurgy Meeting Q 3
Rafael Rodriguez Meets Delegation Q 3
Meeting Concludes; Protocol Signed Q 3
Iraqi Military Delegation Meets Senen Casas Regueiro Q 3
Tours Country Q 4
Teaching Brigade to Angola Holds Meeting Q 4
Rodriguez Meets With Angolan Banking Official Q 4
Spare Parts Exhibit Visited by Ramiro Valdes Q 4
Pedro Miret Visits Display Q 5
Joint Economic Commission Opening in Paris Noted Q 5
Philippines Agriculture Minister Arrives on Official Visit Q 5
Polish Party Official Greeted by Perez Herrero Q 5
Committee for Standardization Delegation Leaves for GDR Q 5

CARIBBEAN

JAMAICA

Efforts To Supply Workers to Venezuela Noted S 1
[DAILY GLEANER 8 Dec]

OTHER COUNTRIES

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

President Guzman Minimizes Differences With PRD V 1

GUYANA

Deputy Prime Minister Ptolemy Reid Comments on Jonestown V 1

BRAZILIAN FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON PUNTA DEL ESTE

PY071658Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1244 GMT 7 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Dec (NA)--Brazilian Foreign Minister Antonio Azeredo da Silveira stated today that in the negotiations carried out at Punta del Este with his Argentine and Paraguayan colleagues, "we achieved a lot of progress" in the search for making compatible the interests of the three countries regarding the hydroelectric development of the Parana River. He added, however, that "we are now going to consult our respective governments since we spoke as their representatives." Azeredo da Silveira made this statement during a telephone conversation from Punta del Este, where the 10th conference of foreign ministers of the River Plate Basin closed yesterday. He said that the resolutions approved at this conference "will have an important role in regional development."

Asked about the possibility of variation in the Brazilian position regarding the number of turbines for Itaipu, which was raised from 18 to 20 and which prompted the Argentine reaction, the Brazilian foreign minister stated: "This was discussed at the time of the drafting of the document which was signed by all of the delegates. The negotiations proposed by Argentina support reconciling the height of Corpus with the operation of Itaipu." He added: "It is obvious that Brazil is the country which has to yield the most, because everything Paraguay gives up in Itaipu it gains in Corpus. Everything Brazil yields to Corpus will be to the advantage of Argentina and Paraguay." Azeredo da Silveira was nevertheless optimistic about achieving a positive result and expressed his conviction that "friendship between Brazil and Argentina will continue to be strong."

Asked about the prospects for economic relations between Argentina and Brazil after Argentine Economy Minister Alfredo Martinez de Hoz' visit to Brasilia, Azeredo da Silveira said that he is convinced that cooperation between the two nations will increase. He stated: "An equal position between Brazil and Argentina will simplify Latin American problems and will give the region more strength in the international order." Azeredo da Silveira noted that Latin America is frequently a victim of international "misunderstanding and pressure" and reiterated that cooperation between Argentina and Brazil can counteract this situation. Azeredo da Silveira made this statement in the "Ford Noticias" program broadcast by Buenos Aires Radio Belgrano. He was also interviewed in Punta del Este by a special correspondent of the newspaper CONVICCION. In this interview he denied the rumor that Argentina and Brazil will reportedly agree on the installation of 18 turbines in Itaipu and will add two more turbines after the construction of the Corpus dam is underway. The Brazilian foreign minister stated: "We never discussed such a thing. I believe this is a technician's idea because they are always inventing a handful of solutions. I categorically state that we never discussed this."

Regarding the negotiations at Punta del Este, he said: "We are undoubtedly achieving progress in the search for a solution of those differences we have regarding the exploitation of the Parana River." He added: "If we do not achieve a solution, I hope we will at least be able to get very near a draft, which will have to be approved by the three governments.

BRIEFS

OLADE SIGNS COOPERATION AGREEMENT--Quito, 8 Dec (AFP)--An agreement on cooperation in research on renewable energy was recently signed in Quito and Paris between the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) and the Commissioner's Office of Solar Energy [Comisariado de Energia Solar--COMES] of France. COMES will provde OLADE with experts to conduct technical studies and will train personnel to help promote the development of alternate energy sources. The convention was signed in Quito by OLADE Executive Secretary Gustavo Rodriguez Elizarras and in Paris by COMES President Henry Durand. [Paris AFP in Spanish 2304 GMT 8 Dec 78 PA]

CHILEAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN BUENOS AIRES

PY120129Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2220 GMT 11 Dec 78 PY

[Text]Buenos Aires, 11 Dec--Chilean Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos was received at the Buenos Aires metropolitan airport by Maj Gen Carlos Washington Pastor (ret), minister of foreign relations and worship. Cubillos arrived at the airport's military section at 1916 aboard the T-02 presidential plane which brought him from Ezeiza International Airport.

POLITICAL PARTY LEADER ASSESSES GOVERNMENT

PY112113Y Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 9 Dec 78 p 5 PY

[Text] During a speech at the American institute for economic, legal and social research, the Rizzuto Foundation, [Popular Federal Alliance leader] Francisco G. Manrique stated that "our country is undergoing one of the most critical moments in its history, with a dangerous accumulation of domestic and foreign problems." Nonetheless, he emphasized that "this military government, which has so many things to criticize, is the result of our demands, our anxieties, our desperation, whether we like or not. We resorted to it when it was no longer possible to continue tolerating the advance of chaos, and it came to power with a heavy inheritance of lies and neglect, with shamelessness and insecurity and organized terrorism."

In the speaker's opinion, the government is trapped in a system which seems diabolical and unbearable--state control and political corruption. "State control," he added, "denies the individual his principal role, and political corruption has set loose its bands of vultures to hasten the government's weakening in order to then lead all the lost people."

Manrique emphasized that even though the national political party he heads is not on the list of past accompanies, it is organized "in case the growing weakness and incoherence of the government should give way to an election such as the one the vultures would like." Finally, he stated that men have to be provided with the ways and means for their organization. "And those ways and means have three requisites--to allow individuality, dignity and the chance to progress."

EDITORIAL VIEWS CRITICISM OF ECONOMY MINISTER

PY050216Y Buenos Aires HERALD in English 4 Dec 78 P 10 PY

[Editorial: "Bloodsport"]

[Text] Crucifying the economy minister has become the national bloodsport. The sad procession of men who have passed through that gloomy marble pile on the southeast corner of Plaza de Mayo during the past 40 years or so have all emerged with as many arrows sticking in them as San Sebastian. Some have had to hurry into exile immediately after being pushed out of office. Some have chosen to live abroad. In some cases men who were our whipping boys were transformed into whiz kids in international organizations. With perhaps one or two exceptions, our former economy ministers have later been honoured outside their own countries. Almost all have had their reputations restored by the passing of time. How ridiculous it seems today, for example, that Mr Ferrer should have been hounded out of office because of a rash forecast that he would keep inflation down to 10 percent (10 percent annually--the clarification is necessary now that we have become accustomed to double digit inflation on monthly instalments). Or that Dr Krieger Vasena should be sacrificed because of the "Cordobazo." Many of yesterday's victims, of course, are today's tormentors--joining the wolfpac circling, at a judicious distance, around Dr Martinez de Hoz.

There is nothing new about what Dr Martinez de Hoz is going through. He knew before he accepted one of the worst jobs in the world that he would have to suffer a period of unpopularity--a time when even his friends from his years in business would turn upon him. Yet there is a new and particularly unpleasant streak of viciousness in the onslaught. It has long been the unhappy lot of any Argentine economy minister to be the scapegoat upon whom pent-up frustrations are worked off. But there seems more to the current campaign against Dr Martinez de Hoz. One of the reasons for its intensity is the fact that political discontent can only find an outlet in economic criticism. Of course, there is plenty to grumble about and a lot to criticize. Wages are low. Inflation is deplorably high. Production is down and there is little investment. But criticism on these and other scores is rarely tempered with the other side of the coin of reality--that there is no unemployment and even a shortage of labour, that the country's international financial situation is sound, that the oil industry is in expansion. No fair-minded person could paint the economic picture as black as Dr Jose's fiercest critics do. Many people seem to take a wild, demented delight in crying the country's woes. We went through the same kind of madness-- it had a more political bent then--in the years that led up to the lunacy of May 25, 1973. At that time many people, who should have known better, were so destructive in their criticism of Argentina's admittedly imperfect institutions that they helped create the climate in which terrorism thrived and society came close to collapse. Let us make sure that nothing like this ever happens again. Dr Martinez de Hoz has made mistakes and will probably make some more. Perhaps he should have ignored military advice and imposed tougher measures two years ago. But the policies he is applying are reasonable and represent a consensus, in fact, of the views of the armed forces and most responsible citizens in their sane moments. The madness that was in the air in the early 70's has not gone away entirely. There are worrying signs that a wave of dangerous irrational emotionalism may be about to sweep over the country again. Will we ever learn to remember the past--so that we will never again repeat its errors?

BRIEFS

PRICE INCREASES REPORTED--It was officially reported tonight that consumer prices increased by 8.8 percent in November, in comparison with October prices, while general wholesale prices increased by 7.9 percent. The cumulative increase of consumer prices--which indicates the cost of living--thus totaled 147.4 percent in the first 11 months of the year, while wholesale prices increased by 117.4 percent in the same period. [Text] [Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2355 GMT 7 Dec 78 PY]

SUBVERSIVE SENTENCED--Cordoba, 6 Dec--The third corps command reported that the following subversives have been sentenced by a military court: Lidia Gladys Querin to 8 years in prison; Hector Hugo Ortiz, 8 years; Domingo Alberto Montivero, 12 years; Rosa Elba Salinero, 8 years; Eva Rosa Torres, 9 years; Carlos Mario Gutierrez, 15 years; Maria Celeste de Lourdes Seydell, 16 years; and Francisco Manuel Diaz, 12 years. [Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 6 Dec 78 p 7 PY]

LOAN FOR YACYRETA--The FRG ambassador to Argentina reported that the Deutsche Bank has granted a loan of 500 million German marks to the Yacyreta binational enterprise for construction of the Yacyreta dam on the Parana River between Argentina and Paraguay. [Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 30 Nov 78 p 23 PY]

FOREIGN MINISTER INTERVIEWED BY ARGENTINE PAPER

PY120040Y Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 9 Dec 78 p 5 PY

[Text] En route home after the meeting of foreign ministers from the River Plate Basin countries held in Punta del Este, the Bolivian foreign minister spoke with LA NACION about issues concerning the nations in the southern cone and the Bolivian political situation.

He emphasized the broad agreements reached during the conference to implement the principles of that international organization which refer to joint efforts promoting the harmonious development and physical integration of the areas under its direct influence.

The foreign minister considered the talks held to be positive, as well as the meeting with his colleague Pastor, who reasserted Argentina's hope that Bolivia will obtain an outlet to the Pacific. Gonsalvez said these remarks represented "moral support for Bolivia's unquestionable right to return to the Pacific"--a right which it was denied almost a century ago, on 14 February 1879.

The speaker commented that his country is considered a link among the nations of America because it is a member of the two great basins--the River Plate and the Amazon basins. Moreover, with the construction of the third and fourth stretches of the Santa Cruz-Trinidad railroad and the [illegible]-Santos connection, as well as the highway network composed of the Transchaco and the Panamericana, links will be set up which will benefit the peoples of this part of the continent. Asked whether the offer made to Brazil for the sale of gas could affect current agreements, he recalled parts of the agreements with our country which, according to notes exchanged at the beginning of 1976, can request larger quantities than the ones currently needed. However, he admitted that Bolivia, after a review of its nonrenewable natural resources conducted by a Japanese firm, should plan its exports of this product with consideration for the protection of its industrial growth--such as the iron and steel industry which has already begun--which will require this energy source.

Another issue we put before our speaker was that of his country's institutional situation. With regard to this, he told us he was convinced that the democratic system of government and pluralist participation in government are the solutions to many problems.

He is a member of a de facto government "because the military junta is determined to return to Bolivia the benefits awarded by the electoral system."

The distance which the government will maintain during the process preceding the elections will not be limited to the fact that "there will be no official or officialist candidacies," he assured us. In addition, "the important decisions the country should adopt, including the solution to the landlock problem, will be postponed until the takeover of the constitutional government" so that all points of view can be considered.

Before concluding the interview, the Bolivian foreign minister expressed the certainty that "the armed forces in the government wish to return to their own field," and that this phase of the process to restore democracy arose from the convictions of those who now govern Bolivia.

NAVY CHIEF PREDICTS USE OF NUCLEAR POWER

PY120056Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 10 Dec 78 p 41 PY

[Excerpts] Brasilia--Our agreement with the FRG prevents Brazil from using technology obtained through it to equip the navy with nuclear ships; however, "we can do it another way and no one can forbid us to," stated the navy chief of staff, Adm Eddy Sampaio Espellet, who believes that the Brazilian Navy will be using this power in the 1990's or the beginning of the next century.

With regard to nuclear propulsion, he explained that the technology obtained through the agreement with the FRG "cannot be used for military objectives." However, since he believes that oil will run dry soon after the year 2,000, studies of other means of propulsion should be initiated now.

"Even though the investments in nuclear power are very expensive, this power proves to be the cheapest in the long run. For the time being, only a few of our officers have studied in the United States. To make our nuclear submarines we will use U.S. technology or our own technology.

JORNAL DO BRAZIL VIEWS NEW VENEZUELAN REGIME

PY062033Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 5 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Brasilia--The rise of the Social Christian Party [COPEI]--a Christian-democratic oriented party--to power in Venezuela was interpreted in Itamaraty yesterday as an indication that relations between Venezuela and Brazil will likely be strengthened even more during the next few years.

Brazilian diplomats feel that with President Luis Herrera Campins the Venezuelan Government will try to overcome some barriers which representatives of the Democratic Action [AD], this time defeated with candidate Luis Pinerua Ordaz, could not overcome through dialog with Brasilia, especially in the political field.

In assessing the electoral results in Caracas, Itamaraty takes into account the fact that it was under COPEI that Brazil has had the best of bilateral relations with Venezuela. At the time of Rafael Caldera's government, a meeting was held in Santa Elena de Uairem. Only during the last year, thanks to the personal effort of current President Carlos Andres Perez, was there greater rapprochement between the two countries, ending with decisive Venezuelan support for the Brazilian project of the Amazon cooperation agreement.

In addition to friendly remarks made by COPEI to JORNAL DO BRASIL, Itamaraty is still looking for more accurate indications of the new government's foreign policy direction to get an idea of Venezuela's international behavior. Except for some scattered remarks on problems with Nicaragua (the COPEI candidate has criticized Perez on "exerting pressure on the OAS against Somoza's regime"), with Guyana (on the issue of territory east of the Ezequibo River, claimed by Venezuela), no other subject of international politics, especially regarding relations with Brazil, was discussed during the electoral campaign, which lasted almost a year.

PAPER EXAMINES KISSINGER CRITICISM OF CARTER

PY081848Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 6 Dec 78 p 3 PY

[From the "Notes and Information" page: "The Soviets About To Cross the Rubicon"]

[Excerpts] Henry Kissinger, the all-powerful secretary of state during the Nixon and Ford governments, has lately, in two public remarks, leveled strong criticism at the foreign policy of President Carter and voiced a warning in unexpectedly straightforward and foreboding terms about the fatal consequences that policy may have for the security of the West and the United States itself.

It was, in fact, Kissinger who initiated the policy of detente to suit Brezhnev's ideas. But it is Kissinger who today warns: "Detente is not a substitute for willpower. We cannot weaken ourselves and then ask the Soviet Union not to take advantage of detente because of our weakness." It was also Kissinger who at one time fought in the Senate against the proposition of Senator Jackson--the winning proposition by the way--that the granting of most-favored-nation treatment to the Soviet Union should go hand in hand with a demand that the USSR liberalize the emigration of dissidents to the Soviet regime. Today it is Kissinger who deplores the fact that the West is not imposing conditions for its economic and financial assistance to the communist bloc. According to the former U.S. secretary of state, that economic assistance should be tied to political demands.

Nor can we accept the proposition that the Soviet Union has an unlimited right to intervene either directly or by proxy anywhere in the world. And, in fact, everything seems to indicate--particularly the massive intervention of Cubans, Russians and the Soviet Navy in Eritrea, and the supply of arms to the Iranian revolutionaries--everything seems to indicate that Moscow is getting ready and is about "to cross the Rubicon" to create an irreparable and irreversible situation in an area crucial in the world conflict, i.e., in the area encompassing the Red Sea, the Horn of Africa and the Persian Gulf.

The United States really should not adopt an attitude of wait-and-see in the face of those facts and be satisfied with verbal and innocuous warnings. All that attitude will achieve is to bring about, on a world-wide scale this time, the repetition of what happened following the occupation of Czechoslovakia and the creation of the Dantzig problem of the Nazis.

To speak at this point of the need to sign another SALT agreement, as Kissinger himself points out, makes no sense. We agree with the Chinese leader Ten Hsiao-ping, who laughed openly when asked during an interview about his opinion on SALT, and then observed that the United States could never stop the Soviet Union even by signing 10 SALT's. More than any other analysis, the laugh of the Chinese leader gives a better picture of the situation in the world today.

BRIEFS

URANIUM EXPLOITATION--A proven 5,500-ton uranium reserve in Lagoa Real, municipality of Caetite, southwest Bahia State, will only begin to be exploited in 1985. The existence of this reserve, which can supply the Angra dos Reis nuclear complex fuel needs for 32 years, was revealed only last September. [Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 5 Dec 78 p 19 PY]

FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR TALKS IN BUENOS AIRES

FY112042Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1907 GMT 11 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 11 Dec--Chilean Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos left today for Buenos Aires to hold talks with his Argentine counterpart, Carlos Pastor, on the Beagle conflict. The two foreign ministers will try to reach an agreement about a mediator, a step which, according to Cubillos, is not the last chance for a peaceful solution of this lengthy conflict.

"Chile has the satisfaction of having offered the way of mediation, but there is still another peaceful way and that is the International Court of Justice at The Hague," the Chilean minister indicated just before boarding the plane which took him to Buenos Aires at 1540 local time (1840 GMT). Cubillos emphasized the country's unity of positions toward the conflict in the south of the continent.

He said: "For all I have heard, I have the satisfaction of knowing that I am a faithful bearer of my nation's feelings to this meeting with Argentina." The foreign minister confirmed that he is carrying a message from President Augusto Pinochet which he will personally deliver to Argentine President Jorge Rafael Videla tomorrow.

However, the foreign minister expressed displeasure at some Argentine news media, which he accused of giving rise to an atmosphere of threats, warmongering, insults and even lies.

BUSINESSMEN ASSESS EFFECTS OF BOYCOTT

FY081643Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0210 GMT 8 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 7 Dec (TELAM-DPA)--Hans Feddersen, general manager of the Chuquicamata mining enterprise, said in Santiago on Thursday that the boycott declared by the Regional Inter-American Labor Organization [ORIT] as of 1 January would be really disastrous for us because there is danger that we will not be able to unload our copper in the ports of destination and we would then have to stop work.

Feddersen called the measure a virtual act of aggression which may have extremely serious consequences. He added, however, that he has no doubt that the Chilean people will know how to meet the situation. If the delivery of imports is cut off, there will be a reduction of production, harming the economy of the country.

Pedro Corona, operations vice president of the Chilean Copper Corporation, which administers the five biggest copper enterprises in the country, said that Chile could make an exchange of import areas with other copper-producing nations if the trade blockade becomes a reality. In any case, Corona said, we will possibly have to stop work at Chuquicamata (9,000 workers) or other copper deposits.

Eugenio Blanco, president of the Santiago stock exchange, reported that the announcement of the boycott has already affected about 50 enterprises, mainly those of the farming, cattle-raising, lumber and cellulose sectors, and the value of the shares they offer at the stock exchange has gone down.

PRESIDENT TURBAY SAYS COUNTRY HAS NO MILITARISTIC AMBITIONS

PA091729Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 2056 GMT 8 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Cartagena, Colombia, 8 Dec (EFE)--President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala said here today, Thursday, that "Colombia has not and does not aspire to be a military power" in Latin America.

Speaking at a navy officers' graduation ceremony, the chief of state added that his country does aspire to "continue to have a professional army which guards its sovereignty, preserves national values and defends its institutions."

Turbay Ayala said that the country has not sought to build up its arms. He added that the nation's best resource is its human resource and, by channeling this properly, the nation will achieve more greatness.

The Colombian president also received the training ship Gloria, which has completed a training cruise for officers to various countries on the continent.

TURBAY AYALA TO VISIT USSR IN MAY

PA071454Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Super Noticias learned today that President Turbay will visit the USSR early next year. The president's historic visit will take place in May 1979 following a trip to several European countries.

Arrangements for President Turbay Ayala's trip are now being made by the Foreign Ministry and the Colombian Foreign Trade Institute.

It will be the first time a Colombian chief of state has made an official visit to the socialist world's greatest power.

The Colombian Government and the Soviet Union are currently discussing construction of the nation's most costly development project, the gigantic Urra hydroelectric plant on the Tibu River, for which the Russians contributed $400 million.

MINES MINISTER DISCUSSES OIL, GAS EXPLOITATION

PA111423Y Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 8 Dec 78 p 10A PA

[Article by Celina Lizarazo]

[Excerpts] Barranquilla, 7 Dec--Mines Minister Alberto Vasquez Restrepo has stated here that the exploitation of 18 oil wells will cost the Colombian Mining Enterprise [ECOPETROL] 1.5 billion pesos. He said that approximately 10 wells are located on the Atlantic coast.

The minister, who is presiding over a meeting of the Electric Corporation of the Atlantic Coast [CORELCA], took a break to hold a news conference.

The meeting was held to select one of the eight international firms which submitted bids for the construction and installation of the "El Cerrejon" thermoelectric plant, which will generate 150,000 kilowatts and will cost 5 million pesos. [Figure as published]

The minister also said that the 18 wells to be drilled are part of a series of 700-750 wells which exist throughout the country within a sedimentary basin area [cuenca sedimentaria] of 716 sq km. The wells will be exploited within the next few years. He said that petroleum imports will continue for the present. Petroleum imports for 1979 will be 23 million barrels at a cost of $350 million, Vasquez Restrepo reported.

Minister Vasquez Restrepo also discussed coal and gas exploitation during his news conference. But an aura of suspense surrounded his announcement of a series of measures which CARBOCOL, the official organization that will handle the nation's coal policy, will introduce early next year.

According to the minister, these measures will permit this organization to increase the exploitation, production and exportation of coal, particularly at the El Cerrejon mine. "It is an initiative that will have great bearing on the development of the domestic economy since the exploitation of coal, one of Colombia's greatest resources, had been forgotten," he added.

On the subject of gas, the minister added: "We possess fairly considerable reserves--such as Chuchupa, Ballenas and Richacha, thus far--and good possibilities have been discovered at Galerazamba, which give Colombia a daily exploitation potential of 450 to 500 million cubic feet. This will not only be a sufficient supply of natural gas for the nation and industry, but will also allow us to transport it to Cali, Medellin and Bogota for household use as is the case in Barranquilla."

In conclusion, the minister stated on the subject of gas exportation that "the previous administration had conducted preliminary negotiations for the exportation of 150 million cubic feet, which apparently conforms with planned exploitation. But we are going to revise this estimate so that we will not run into the same situation as we did with oil, that is, we will not run out of gas because we exported all of it."

GOVERNMENT TO ADOPT NEW ENERGY POLICY

PA090207Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Important statements regarding oil policy were made today by Mines and Energy Minister Alberto Vasquez Restrepo. In statements to Super Noticias, the minister said that the government will adopt new controls to prevent foreign companies from abusing the concessions granted by the Colombian State.

The minister also said that the new administration is preparing measures designed to change the terms of some oil concessions in which all the advantages are on the side of the multinational oil companies.

The government announced today that it will not permit the exportation of natural gas from La Guajira, as had been authorized by President Lopez' administration. Mines and Energy Minister Alberto Vasquez Restrepo said that the present government will not take risks in the utilization of energy resources so as to prevent remorse in the future.

The minister said that the government will review contracts for exporting gas from La Guajira, for the extraction of new crude and for the rational exploitation of coal deposits.

The mines and energy minister said that the government will make foreign companies respect the country's energy (?laws). In a highly nationalistic statement, the minister said that the government is not prepared to accept the abuses which were committed in the past with a resource as basic to the country as is oil.

Regarding the defense of natural resources, the minister said that all risks will be avoided in the exploitation of oil, gas, coal and other energy resources.

SALARY COUNCIL PARTIALLY RESOLVES MINIMUM WAGE SPLIT

PA070336Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Dec 78 PA

[Bernabe Gomez report]

[Text] The National Salary Council tonight partially resolved the critical situation it had confronted in its preliminary meetings after the government, employers and workers agreed on a minimum wage for intermediate cities and the peasant sector.

After a difficult 5-hour session, the triparite organization decided to eliminate the wage scales that had been in effect in intermediate or nonindustrialized conglomerates and for the peasant sector, and standardized the rate at 80.50 pesos per day. In other words, the rural sector and the intermediate cities will automatically be assigned a minimum monthly wage of 2,415 pesos. This amount will be used as the basis for two new minimum wage scales.

After the tripartite organization's third meeting, Labor Minister Rodrigo Marin Bernal told this station: [Begin recording] [Words indistinct] that we are moving close to certain points of agreement that lead us to expect a positive result from these discussions and final decisions that the National Salary Council will make. I trust that today's decisions concerning the search for two wage levels will constitute a positive advance in these talks and that we will soon be able to announce an agreement. Meanwhile, both the workers and employers, as well as the government itself, are very interested in these developments. [end recording]

Despite the standardization of the minimum wage in the intermediate cities--for instance in Girardot, Palmira, Buga and Sogamoso, among others, and the peasant sector--the workers' negotiators feel that not all of their objectives have been achieved. Nevertheless, they believe that on Monday, when negotiations resume, the management sector will be fair in setting the new minimum wage for nearly 2.5 million Colombians.

BRIEFS

INCREASED INDUSTRIAL GROWTH--The national manufacturing industry will show a 10-percent growth by the end of the year. It has been estimated that this year will be the best in the past 5 years in terms of production, employment and sales, a commercial bank report said. The report covers all sectors of national manufacturing. This year industry has recovered from the situation that existed at the end of 1977. [Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Dec 78 PA]

RECORD COFFEE EXPORTS--Bogota--In November, Colombia exported 1 million bags of coffee, breaking a record for the third consecutive month. Central American producers are not pleased with the abundance of Colombian coffee in the international market following an agreement in Guatemala to establish low export quotas to maintain price levels. This year Colombia should earn over $1 billion from coffee. [Bogota Cadena Radical Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Dec 78 PA]

FORMER CANDIDATE CALDERON MUNOZ DIES IN MIAMI HOSPITAL

PA100433Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0423 GMT 10 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Quito, 9 Dec (AFP)--Several Guayaquil radio stations announced tonight that Abdon Calderon Munoz, former Ecuadorean presidential candidate in the July elections, died tonight at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami. He was the founder of the Alfarist Radical Front (rightist). He was shot in Guayaquil on 29 November. He received medical care in Guayaquil and was later taken to Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami, where he has just died.

FRA REPORTS ARREST OF CALDERON MUNOZ' MURDERER

PA101505Y Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 10 Dec 78 PA

[Text] The Alfarist Radical Front [FRA] has told the nation that the arrest of Guillermo Mendez, who shot Abdon Calderon Munoz, was made possible because the FRA, led by Abdon Calderon's family, followed the leads the Ecuadorean people provided. It can be noted that the National Guard did not play any part in the investigation of this criminal act. The people had been providing leads to the police, which did not [word indistinct] but which the FRA followed: Dr Edgar Molina, Abdon Calderon's running mate in the presidential and vice presidential election, said yesterday that a FRA investigation led to the arrest of a criminal who was turned over to the national police in Ambato and taken to Guyaquil.

JAIME ROLDOS DENOUNCES TERRORISM, PRIVILEGED PERSONS

PA120330Y Quito Cadena del Amarillo, Azul y Rojo in Spanish 2330 GMT 11 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Attorney Jaime Roldos, presidential candidate of the Concentration of Popular Forces [CFP], proposed a [word indistinct] to recall the [words indistinct] investigation of the murder of political leader Abdon Calderon Munoz and other previous terrorists attacks. The blood of economist Abdon Calderon, Roldos said, is the finger of accusation against the dictatorship. It is also an accusation against those who maintain privileges, which will disappear with the victory of the CFP candidates [word indistinct] amidst a terrorist struggle in an attempt to frighten free men who strive for the good of Ecuadoreans. Roldos expressed his doubts about the progress of the process for reestablishment of democracy as it is being carried out by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal amidst the accompanying climate of terror, tension and fears, which is being created in the country by means of terror and crime. Roldos believes that Ecuador has fallen into a sort of law of the jungle by means of terrorism, crime and abuses against the communication media and newsmen. He said that this tragic conclusion compels all Ecuadoreans to try to find the climate of peace and justice which we all want.

DELEGATION DEPARTS QUITO FOR OPEC CONFERENCE

PA091751Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2333 GMT 8 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Quito, 8 Dec (LATIN)--Gen Eduardo Semblantes, Ecuadorean minister of natural resources and energy, left today for Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, to attend the OPEC meeting which begins on Tuesday. Ecuador, which became a member of OPEC after it began to export crude oil in 1972, is presently a candidate for the secretariat of the organization for the coming term. Francisco Swett Morales, president of the National Planning Board; Roque Canadas, advisor for energy affairs of the Foreign Ministry; Rene Ortiz, Ecuadorean governor at the OPEC; and other government officials will also attend the meeting, at which OPEC's immediate oil price policy will be determined. It was officially announced that Minister Semblantes, who heads the delegation, will visit Kuwait after the OPEC meeting.

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON PLATE BASIN CONFERENCE

PY111804Y Asuncion HOY in Spanish 10 Dec 78 p 10 PY

[Excerpt] "Foreign ministers conferences of the River Plate Basin countries have always been useful because they deal with matters which concern the five countries in this significant subregional system," Foreign Minister Alberto Nogues told HOY after his arrival at President Stroessner International Airport at noon yesterday.

With regard to reports published by Argentine newspapers which labeled Nogues as "inflexible," the foreign minister said: "If one is called inflexible for always defending with some energy the interests of his country, then that is very good."

Asked about the future of the River Plate Basin, Foreign Minister Nogues said that this is a very rich region, which at the beginning, as all things, has its problems and occasional disappointments, "but I believe that this is something we should not despise; we should put great effort and efficiency in our work." He cited, as an example of other regions which became very powerful, the Ruhr Basin, which later became the EEC, and today is an economic power almost as powerful as the United States.

3-DAY NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS CONGRESS ENDS

Opposition Politician Comments

PY111556Y Asuncion HOY in Spanish 11 Dec 78 p 12 PY

[Text] Domingo Laino [Authentic Radical Liberal Party leader] yesterday said with regard to the first congress on human rights held in the country that "the congress was magnificent. This first experience in Paraguay will be very useful in the future. I really believe this is a landmark which is going to help open the way for greater respect of human rights."

Laino also said: "We also paid tribute to those who gave their lives trying to solve the problems of their communities and lost their lives in open violation of human rights." He said: "Summing up, I can say that it was an extraordinary congress. The conclusions greatly satisfy the true opposition of the country."

He added: "The most outstanding aspect of this is that we have achieved something which a few years ago would have been impossible to achieve. I reiterate that the important thing is that very significant matters were discussed and the conclusions reached are very useful." "I would also like to point out that the presence of national and foreign dignitaries enhanced this congress and we who support the defense of human rights have received support and advice from them."

Laino represented the Authentic Radical Liberal Party at the congress and was a member of group two, which discussed the following matters: Human rights in the economic and social area, and human rights and the workers.

Participants Assess Proceedings

PY112105Y Asuncion LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 10 Dec 78 p 3 PY

[Excerpts] The first national congress on human rights which will end this morning has given rise to various comments from the participants, some of which were in agreement.

Carlos Jose Ghislandi, representative of the National Pastoral Conference of Brazilian bishops: "I did not expect to see so much concern for the human rights problem in Paraguay. I believe the congress will yield results, very positive results for the greater development of human rights.

"In Brazil we know that there are violations of human rights by the government here, as there are in Brazil. In this sense, the situation of our peoples is the same."

Jose Rodriguez Duarte, secretary general of the Spanish Justice and Peace Commission and the European council of that organization, stated: "I brought the support of our organization to this congress, which, for me, is a success. It is obvious that in this country, Paraguay, there is no real and effective recognition of human rights. This means that there is a need to begin a democratization process. I see that the people here are very concerned and dynamic."

Wendy Turhel, the representative from Amnesty International: "One of the reasons which brought me here, in addition to supporting the national congress on human rights, is to show that we are neither communists, nor Marxists, nor Leninists, and that we work throughout the entire world. I understand that this congress is very important.

Recommendations Approved

PY1200155Y Asuncion LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 11 Dec 78 p 3 PY

[Quotation marks as published]

[Text] The first national congress on human rights ended yesterday with the approval of several conclusions reached during the 3 days of work. All these conclusions refer to the fundamental aspects of the inalienable rights of man, and especially of those who live in Paraguay.

"The congress recommends the promotion, fulfillment and implementation of the national constitution by national officials and the citizens as well.

"The cancellation of freedom-restricting laws, especially Laws No 209 and 234; an appropriate broad general amnesty; freedom for all political prisoners; the return of exiles; and the opening of the border to Paraguayans without any discrimination."

Lifting of the state of siege and the law which regulates its implementation; condemnation of torture in all forms whether concerning political or common prisoners.

Regarding natural rights: The dismantling of the repressive apparatus; the implementation of constitutional principles; and the punishment of officials or individuals responsible for having employed torture, maltreatment and abuse as provided for in the penal code and international treaties.

"Implementation of the constitutional norms which allow all citizens to enter and leave the country without restrictions; and denunciation of restrictions in granting personal documents such as identity cards, voting cards and passports."

"Denunciation of the violation of the constitutional labor right which demands only suitability and competence of candidates for public jobs, and equally the situation of political and common prisoners who are discriminated against as far as job opportunities are concerned."

The situation of workers: Changing social legislation to provide protection for the workers, citing as examples construction workers and maids as cases which require a special regulation.

Complete and strict fulfillment of all labor laws to guarantee the free functioning of union organizations, eliminating all foreign, management, political and police interference.

Respect and dignity for the woman in her position as a worker, elimination of political discrimination in filling job vacancies within the public or private sectors, reorganization of the social security regime and the social welfare services, suspension of all economic and military aid which may strengthen and legitimize dictatorships or organizations which violate human rights, and condemnation of the use of the police force and military sectors to repress the peasants.

Regarding education, the congress participants noted the following points: The lack of academic freedom, the appointments of professors by the government and the persecution of teachers and students, the vertical nature of the education system, the lack of a liberating education which would allow man to fulfill himself as a person in his individual dimensions, and the meager allowance in the national budget to satisfy the need for a free education which would be within the reach of all.

"Denunciation of the violation of the constitutional right to privacy in letter, telegraph and telephone communications; condemnation of deaths for political reasons and the situation of political prisoners who have disappeared within police stations; petition for an explanation of positively well-known cases and recommendation that an investigating committee be formed for the unknown cases.

"Petitioning the national officials to establish the date for a visit by the inter-American human rights investigating commission; recommendation that the human rights commission place emphasis on declaring that human rights will be implemented throughout the country only when the country returns to its democratic and republican course.

The congress also proposed that a note be sent to the Paraguayan Episcopal conference recognizing and supporting the pastoral program approved by the conference for the continuation, orientation and human support of the light of Christianity, and asking that the struggle for these rights be intensified and strengthened. It also indicated the effective and positive action of other churches and of the Paraguayan committee of churches for the development and implementation of human rights.

COMMENTATOR CRITICIZES HUMAN RIGHTS CONGRESS

PY130128Y Asuncion Red Privada de Emisoras in Spanish 2300 GMT 11 Dec 78 PY

[Station commentary]

[Text] To those demagogs of the so-called National Human Rights Commission, which is led by a fool who claims to be the president of a commission created in God knows what assembly, attended by God knows what delegates, and who financed this new subversive attempt [the national human rights congress] with money obtained God knows where, and to those other demagogs who responded to their invitation, we are going to say once again that the legal order established in the country is based on justice, a superior goal which is the basic characteristic of a true state of law.

Our undisputed leader, President Stroessner, has been the first to give a calm, conscientious example by complying with both the principles of the national constitution and all other laws which were dictated to make national coexistence possible.

Our peace, which is precisely one of the great, invaluable achievements of our people, is significant, unequivocal evidence that our nation is undergoing a tranquil, harmonious development without events or circumstances which could disrupt the people's tranquillity and spiritual calm.

Based on these tangible realities, we can state that human rights are fully in force in Paraguay today. The Paraguayan people can testify to this categorical assertion since they fully enjoy the rights and powers guaranteed to the individual by our 1967 national constitution.

Both the Colorado Party and the government of President Stroessner can be proud of this constitution because they made possible the convocation of a constituent assembly--which is the expression of popular sovereignty and which was attended by all legal political parties--which approved our present law of laws, a model constitution which was inspired both by representative democracy and the principles of human dignity.

To promote the free development of each individual's personality, as guaranteed by the constitution, the national government has guaranteed the right to education through the establishment of elementary and secondary schools and university institutions; the right to work through the creation of new jobs; the right to form associations with legal goals; and the right to freedom of conscience, thought and opinion. In sum, our government provides the individual with adequate means and facilities to fully develop his personality so that it may become increasingly encouraging to cultivate both the intellect and the spirit in a civilized, democratic society.

The leader of the new Paraguay, inspired in the essence of the traditional Colorado Party, is the undisputed builder of the happy, progressive times we are going through. He has been the untiring author of many achievements, which have been taking place at a rapid pace, and which are filling the people with satisfaction and optimism.

Under the creative influence of peace, which we defend and will continue to defend with our greatest patriotism, Paraguay has been building its wonderful future in an atmosphere of order and effective individual and social guarantees, which can encourage the good citizens to work and to develop their best virtues.

The following option must be considered by those Bolshevik leftists who have gathered in a so-called symposium on human rights: Either they prefer our constructive reality or the communist hell they have been talked into, and which they are serving as useful idiots. There is only one valid alternative. We good Paraguayans made a decision a long time ago: We are for Paraguay and, therefore, we are with the leader of this great period, the leader of this nation, Gen Alfredo Stroessner.

COPPER MINERS SUSPEND STRIKE IN RETURN FOR TALKS

PA101818Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1652 GMT 9 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpts] Lima, 9 Dec (EFE)--With a warning that existing problems must be solved within 72 hours, the striking miners in Cuajone, Peru's major copper deposit south of Lima, returned to work today, Saturday. The U.S. Southern Peru Copper Company confirmed to EFE the return to work of 1,300 striking miners. The mining and metallurgy federation in turn noted that a miners' commission will go to Lima on Monday to meet labor officials and seek a solution to their demands. The labor minister had said that he would meet the strike leaders if they lifted the strike.

PRIME MINISTER WARNS OPPONENTS OF ARMED FORCES

PA102219Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1634 GMT 10 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 10 Dec (AFP)--Political circles have noted that the armed forces [as received] and the Popular, Student, Peasant and Workers Front (FOCEP) were confronted today with a severe warning made here yesterday by Gen Oscar Molina, Peruvian prime minister and army commander.

General Molina solemnly--and publicly, for the first time--warned that the armed forces and the police "will firmly fight" those groups advocating their replacement with paramilitary organizations.

The FOCEP, which is composed of several parties, most of them Trotskyite, has been stating since the beginning of the campaign for the Constituent Assembly elections in June that the armed forces, being a tool of domination, should be replaced by the people in arms [el pueblo en armas].

This front, which obtained 12 of the 100 seats in the assembly and more than 12 percent of the votes, is led by Genaro Ledesma, an attorney, but its most influential leader is Hugo Blanco, a former guerrilla.

FOCEP, which has been reinforced with three legislators who broke with the Socialist Revolutionary Party of Gen Leonidas Rodriguez, also has the tactical support of four Constituent Assembly members of the Popular Democratic Union [UDP], another extreme leftist group. The UDP, however, defends the existence of a professional armed force for national defense purposes but with the command unified under one single ministry, thereby rationalizing expenses.

The FOCEP, meanwhile, calls for "the replacement of the present professional armed forces by organizing and arming all the people."

Speaking on army day yesterday, General Molina said that this "would result in violence and anarchy, would be a serious threat to the country's internal peace and order and would be disastrous for the nation's territorial integrity." "The armed forces and the police," he warned, "will remain alert to prevent these totalitarian-type tendencies, which go against our principles of liberty, democracy and sovereignty, from gaining ground." The prime minister added that the armed forces and the police "will firmly fight any effort aimed at weakening their institutionality and their necessary cohesion, which cannot be destroyed," especially since this is "a modern, well-trained and well-equipped army." The prime minister concluded by assuring that "all our actions are aimed at defending our flag and we will not hesitate in opposing anyone raising any other flag."

PRESIDENT PEREZ NOTES STABILITY OF BOLIVAR

PA091808Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0221 GMT 9 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 8 Dec (EFE)--President Carlos Andres Perez has said that the bolivar is supported by some $9 billion in reserves and will continue to be one of the most stable currencies in the world. Perez spoke at his residence about several matters related to the need to modify domestic banking interest rates, since they are lower than foreign interest rates, a situation which adversely affects the national economy. It was said during the meeting that interest rates have risen greatly on the New York and London markets, the centers of major transactions, which has naturally caused a flow of Venezuelan currency abroad in search of greater profit.

On the other hand, it was learned that President-elect Luis Herrera Campins has appointed a commission to serve as liaison with President Perez' economy ministers in order to carry out the needed analysis in this area.

Finally, at the economic meeting it was said that there is no concern regarding the bolivar-dollar relationship, since nothing will be changed.

HERRERA APPOINTS HEAD OF MILITARY HOUSEHOLD

PA120317Y Caracas Domestic Service in Spanish 2340 GMT 11 Dec 78 PA

[Text] We hereby announce that Brig Gen Ivan Morez Verde has been appointed chief of the president-elect's military household.

FOREIGN MINISTER REPORTS TO PRESIDENT-ELECT

PA111520Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 11 Dec 78 PA

[Freddy Baptista report]

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Dr Simon Alberto Consalvi met with the president-elect at La Herrerena last night. Dr Simon Alberto Consalvi presented to President-elect Herrera a report on Venezuela's current international policy, particularly regarding the Nicaraguan situation and the Colombian-Venezuelan dispute.

It was officially reported at La Herrerena estate that the presidents of Costa Rica and Colombia, Rodrigo Carazo Odio and Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala, have been invited to the inauguration on 12 March 1979.

PARTIES TO DISAPPEAR DUE TO INSUFFICIENT VOTES

PA120158Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2050 GMT 11 Dec 78 PA

[Text] A source from the Supreme Electoral Council has announced that 20 parties will disappear because they failed to win the 1 percent of the vote required by the law on parties. The source said that among these parties are the FDP [Popular Democratic Force], Communist Unitarian Vanguard, MORENA [National Renewal Movement], OPINA [National Opinion Party], Common Cause and [name indistinct].

The source said that those organizations which obtain 1 percent of the vote in the elections must reorganize themselves within a period of no more than 1 year. [sentence as heard] He explained that as far as the coming municipal elections are concerned, it is not known whether organizations which failed to obtain 1 percent of the vote will be able to participate.

COPEI TO CONTINUE CURRENT ADMINISTRATION'S PROGRAMS

PA111525Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 11 Dec 78 PA

[Text] The Social Christian Party (COPEI) government will continue the works and programs of the current administration, COPEI leader Dr Pedro Pablo Aguilar has said. He said that our legislation is old and anachronistic and that his party will seek a broad national consensus to undertake an extensive reform and renew this legislation during its term in office.

COPEI Secretary General Pedro Pablo Aguilar added that during the general elections, his party would draw a majority of the votes. [sentence as heard]

CUBAN OFFICIAL RECEIVED BY VENEZUELAN COMMUNIST LEADERS

FL112322Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 11 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Caracas--Haydee Santamaria, director of the Casas de las Americas, was received today by the Venezuelan Communist Party Politburo. Attending the meeting were Gustavo Machado, president of that organization; Jesus Faria, secretary general; and Politburo members Eduardo Gallego Mancera and Radames Larrazabal, among others. The Cuban leader was accompanied by Roberto Marquez, minister counselor at the Cuban Embassy. At the meeting, the director of the Casas de las Americas briefed the Venezuelan Communists on the most recent activities and future projects of that cultural institution. After the meeting, the Communist leaders invited Haydee Santamaria to tour the installations of the Communist Party headquarters located in southwest Caracas. The director of the Casas de las Americas is in that country at the invitation of the Caracas Atheneum.

JOURNALISTS CONDEMN GOVERNMENT'S SEIZURE OF MAGAZINE

PA091744Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2338 GMT 8 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 8 Dec (AFP)--Venezuela's National Association of Journalists (CNP) has condemned the government's decision to seize the last edition of the liberal magazine RESUMEN, as well as President Carlos Andres Perez' order to try its director, Jorge Olavarria, for slander. In the latest edition of RESUMEN, which was seized last Sunday before it could begin circulating, Olavarria demanded a trial of President Perez for alleged misuse of power and illegal acquisition of wealth. In response, the president decided that the editor should be tried, but Olavarria sought asylum at the apostolic nunciature in Caracas in order to travel later to the United States as an exile.

The CNP has protested what it regards as a violation of the freedom of expression established in the constitution, and an attack on the principles for which journalists have been struggling. Without referring to RESUMEN's contents, the association deplored the seizure of the magazine and the suit brought against Olavarria because such measures "follow a deplorable and prolonged tradition of arbitrary actions and disdain for the law on the part of Venezuelan governments."

SPOKESMAN DENOUNCES SALVADORAN FARM WORKERS' SITUATION

PA120314Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 11 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Several members of El Salvador's farm workers federation visited our studios to denounce the Salvadoran peasants' current situation. According to the visitors, Salvadoran peasants are currently struggling to improve their standard of living. However, the delegates pointed out, most of the arable land is in the hands of a land-holding minority, thus preventing the normal development of the Salvadoran agrarian sector. Following is an excerpt of the statements made by one of the members of the Salvadoran farm workers federation:

[Begin recording] First, we would like to greet in the name of the farm workers federation all farm workers in particular and the Panamanian people in general in a fraternal and revolutionary manner.

Our reason for being here is the need, as I said previously, to denounce the situation of misery and poverty we farm workers are suffering from in El Salvador and to explain our organization's struggle to improve the living conditions of farm workers.

We farm workers constitute the majority of the population in El Salvador but, in spite of this, we do not own any land because the landlords have seized the best land. Thus, in order to be able to plant the basic grains we need for nourishment, we must compete with the landholders for the land, and we have to rent the land from them at high prices that we cannot afford. As a result of this, we do not produce the basic grains we need for our nourishment, and we are starving and suffering from a number of diseases because we do not obtain medicines at the assistance centers either.

We are condemned to illiteracy because we have no chance of sending our children to school or of attending school ourselves. This is our current situation. Furthermore, we have to go to the labor centers in order to earn a salary to buy the basic grains that we need to survive. But the thing is that the wages earned are too low and are not in accordance with our needs and with the high cost of living, as the price of things increases constantly, and we cannot afford to buy them.

Aside from this, we receive inhuman treatment at the labor centers. At most labor centers we are denied food, and if they do give us food it is not in accordance with the energy that we use up at work--a hard tortilla with some beans is all they give us for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Furthermore, in the case of coffee, we are robbed at weigh-ins. Neither are we given houses, so we have to sleep out in the fields of the coffee plantations, suffering the cold of night, the wind, the rain and the cold. There is no medical assistance for a good many of our comrades who get sick as a result of these conditions. This is how we Salvadoran farm workers live.

As a result of this, our organization was created to fight against all these injustices to which we are subjected. Our organization groups farm workers and seeks to bring together all Salvadoran farm workers in order to fight in an organized and combative manner alongside our working comrades of the other sectors of the population, in an attempt to destroy the cause of all our problems. The capitalist system is the cause of all of our problems and for this reason we are also waging this struggle with that objective in mind--the destruction of the capitalist system so that our living conditions can be improved.

Within that framework, we also promote struggles aimed at satisfying our most pressing demands. Regarding this, we have promoted a number of struggles, and at present we are currently waging a struggle to achieve a wage increase, better food and better treatment for us workers. [end recording]

COMMENTATOR NOTES ROYO'S 'PHYSICAL EXHAUSTION'

PA111404Y Panama City Radio Hogar in Spanish 1230 GMT 11 Dec 78 PA

[Commentary by Milciades A. Ortiz in "Radioperiodico Conciencia" program]

[Text] President Aristides Royo appears to be a president who is very concerned about state affairs. The Royo administration has to face difficult moments because it has taken over a bankrupt country, with a budget in the red and with serious social and economic problems that were not solved by the Torrijos government. To this must be added the problem of executive appointments that were not very wise. All of this is of concern to the president and affects his health.

Several weeks ago this program said that according to reports, the president was not sleeping well some nights. No one denied that report. It is known that President Royo fainted during his visit to Colon early this month. Several persons who were near him told me that Royo had fainted and was attended by doctors who prescribed certain medicine. The aforementioned is an example of how concerned the president is over Panama's future. The concern reaches the point of mental and physical exhaustion of a person who is only 38 years old. I hope that my former fellow student Aristides Royo will be able to maintain a physical and mental balance between the work of the presidency and his health so that he will continue directing the destiny of the country without greater problems.

COMMENTATORS CONCERNED ABOUT CANAL ZONE BUDGET CUT

PA111716Y Panama City Radio Mia Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 11 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpt from the "Resumen Informativo" commentary program with Ramon Pereira, Jr., and Julio Ortega]

[Text] [Ramon Pereira] The situation is going to get worse with the reductions in force in the Canal Zone. I was informed over the telephone that more than 3,000 positions will be eliminated in a single Canal Zone department.

[Julio Ortega] Ramon, I sometimes think that the Americans really made a good deal with Panama.

[Ramon Pereira] Now I see that by handing over the canal to us as partners, look at what will happen. We will have to defray costs as partners and, since Panama does not have the funds to defray the total expenses, and the part that it can contribute is very small because of its economy, then we will see a reduction in Canal Zone salaries. We can see this with the firemen. The Canal Zone firemen currently earn $1,000 per month. A Panamanian will not make more than $200. Therefore, the United States will save $800 on each fireman. There are 42 firemen in both stations. Look at the monthly savings.

[Ortega] They are almost at the same level.

[Pereira, Jr] No, they will do the same job with the same risks, and the same training will be required, but they will earn less. The same will happen to the Panamanian engineers, with all personnel in the Canal Zone, I sincerely believe.

Now I realize why Carter was so interested in passing the treaty. They are going to cut their operating costs by reducing salaries. Panama is a partner in this process. We are now partners, and since we cannot finance such high operating costs in salaries alone, they have told us: Well, you want to be partners? Fine, let us be partners.

But now unemployment begins, the elimination of posts--which the United States could not do on its own because of the AFL-CIO and federal regulations which classify the Canal Zone as an overseas base with certain rights, concessions, guarantees and incentives. Moreover, the United States thought numerically; we thought with our heart: The canal will be ours. But you will see what is going to happen. Panama's economic level, which was boosted by the canal, will descend. And the future which I see, without being an economist, is very serious for Panama during the next few years.

[Ortega] Just so you can have an idea, the Canal Zone's current $16-million budget will decrease to almost $4 million. They will be saving $12 million. Do not figure it out in dollars, figure it out in jobs and you will see what this means.

Ramon, can you imagine what it is to withdraw $12 million from this country's economy? And we still have a revenue director in Panama thinking of firing people who do miscellaneous jobs?

[Ramon Pereira] I think President Royo should sit down with his government economic team and say: Gentlemen, in the coming years this country is going to face such and such problems. No action which is a burden for the people can be treated lightly by a mere resolution of a government official, although the law gives him that power. This is going to affect the government program. The fact that the revenue director issues a resolution which is going to affect 12,000 people who do not pay taxes, and who make something like 10 cents, is going to affect the nation's economy, especially since, beginning in October, Panama will not receive an average of up to $12 million from jobs alone.

COLUMNIST VIEWS CANAL ZONE AFFAIRS

PA071855Y Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 7 Dec 78 p 39 PA

[From "El Cafetin" column by Erich Rodriguez Auerbach]

[Text] It is about time that an inventory of the goods on hand be conducted in the Canal Zone. We read every day that this school was destroyed or that pier was damaged and nobody knows what will be left at the end.

Speaking about the zone, it has been officially confirmed that Frank Baldwin will retire in January. He will not exactly be remembered as a friend of Panama.

EXPERTS RECOMMEND STUDY ON CIA COMMUNICATIONS

PA072250Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 7 Dec 78 PA

[Text] The third meeting of the Congress of Experts on Communications in Latin America, which is currently underway in this capital, has recommended to UNESCO that a study be conducted on CIA's communications network in the area.

It was reported at the meeting that according to a number of recent U.S. Senate reports, 29 percent of that espionage organization's activities are dedicated to the area of information.

It was also indicated that the U.S. Armed Forces' Radio and Television Service has over 30 television stations and 250 radio stations operating throughout the world. The Voice of America has more than 100 high-power transmitters, and its broadcasts are retransmitted by 2,000 stations in Latin America. Most of those broadcasts are aimed at increasing cultural dependence and penetration in the developing countries.

U.S. PRESS DISTORTION OF PANAMA CRITICIZED

PA052247Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 5 Dec 78 PA

["Fijando el Rumbo" commentary by Danilo Caballero]

[Excerpts] This morning, the dean of the Panamanian press, LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA, published a front page article which we have already read in the U.S. magazine, U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT. LA ESTRELLA, with great professional responsibility, publishes an introduction to this midleading and fallacious article which allows the Panamanian reader to realize how our image is being manipulated in the United States and the world.

One of those strange organizations, which calls itself Freedom House, published in the U.S. weekly a list of countries in the world, dividing them into three categories: Free nations, nations which are partially free, and nations with no freedom. Besides the fact that such a classification is capricious and like any generalization, weakly supported, there is something that stands out as a great lie. These cynical gentlemen of the no less suspicious Freedom House have happily included our country among the nations without freedom.

We repeat that this article is, in our opinion, a new stage in a systematic campaign. What draws our attention is that it is published in a U.S. magazine with such a large international circulation. Under cover of this strange organization--whose board of directors includes Mr Zbigniew Brzezinski, one of President Carter's most aggressive advisers on matters of war--a report has been released to the world in which we are linked with the entire socialist world and also with other nations whose constant violations of human rights have been discussed at the United Nations.

There is something else that powerfully draws our attention: The Freedom House, which, who knows with what moral right or on what basis, places us among the countries that have no freedom at all, hastens to describe the Somoza regime in Nicaragua as a relatively free country. This means that according to that organization and the U.S. weekly, Nicaraguans have more freedom than Panamanians.

The errors committed by research groups or by editors and newsmen can often be understood in view of the armchair ignorance which is so common. However, this is not the case here, first of all because for a year--the year preceding the signing of the Torrijos-Carter treaty--our country was a daily subject in the U.S. press. We do not seek to have all U.S. newsmen approve of our revolutionary process. To expect this would be to ignore the great economic interests--at times of tragic proportion--which operate between the keys of their typewriters. However, we can argue that it would seem to be cynical, irresponsible and cowardly to launch an attack of this type after hundreds of U.S. newsmen and dozens of U.S. senators and businessmen visited Panama and saw how much freedom we have and what our prospects are for perfecting that freedom.

However, the infamy does not end there. Today, the newspaper CRITICA publishes, with great journalistic timeliness, an advertisement from another U.S. magazine, HIGH TIMES, in which someone offers marijuana of the type known as Panama Red as a gift from Santa Claus, guaranteeing that it was grown in Volcan, Chiriqui. Here again, and not accidentally, is another aspect of that systematic campaign. It will be easily remembered that during the Senate debates which led to the Torrijos-Carter treaties, the drug issue was one of the war cries used by the most reactionary press and the most conservative U.S. senators.

However, it is even easier to recall that, while it is true that our country is almost an obligaroty route for drug traffic from the South American countries, there are two other salient truths: Panama has one of the lowest rates of drug consumption, while all the drugs which pass through our country--all the drugs confiscated by our authorities--are destined for the United States, the greatest market for drugs in the world.

What is the reason for this strange advertisement, which seeks through the innocence of a commercial announcement to portray Panama as being submerged in the production and consumption of drugs? Has it ever occurred to our revolutionary government or to any Panamanian authority to legalize marijuana? Are the soldiers of our country the ones who carry in their backpacks, along with the necessary objects, the drugs which were so often talked about during the war of aggression in Vietnam?

All the answers are obvious. What is significant is that when a series of publications begins to speculate on whether or not there is liberty in a particular country, something is being plotted against that country.

BRIEFS

TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT--The Panamanian Government and the Inter-American Development Bank [IDB] have signed a $700,000 technical cooperation agreement. The contract was signed by Agricultural Development Minister Alfredo Orange, and Emilio Ortiz de Ceballos for the IDB. The purpose of the agreement is to cooperate in financing a work program which will be carried out by the Panamanian Government to strengthen the Agriculture Ministry's institutional system, particularly in the decision-making process in the agricultural sector and the rural areas. [Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 5 Dec 78 PA]

SUGARCANE HARVEST--The sugarcane harvest totaled more than 3 million tons throughout the country during the past agricultural year--from 1 May 1977 to 30 April 1978--a report of the statistics and census bureau of the controller general's office says. The figures are based on polls taken this year by officials of the statistics bureau. The Provinces of Bocas del Toro and Darien, as well as the Indian areas, were from the survey. The 3 million tons of sugarcane were harvested over a cultivated area of 57,630 hectares. [Text] [Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 11 Dec 78 PA]

ENERGY PRICES UNCHANGED--The officials of the Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification [IRHE] have announced that energy prices will not be increased, as the institute has decided to absorb the possible oil price increase as well as rising maintenance and operations costs. The IRHE officials have also announced other administrative measures, including the reorganization of regional management. [Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 8 Dec 78 PA]

BELIZE

GOVERNMENT, OPPOSITION ASSERT RIGHT TO INDEPENDENCE AT UN

FL111120Y Belize City THE BELIZE TIMES in English 3 Dec 78 p 1 FL

[Text] The deputy premier of Belize, Hon. C.L.B. Rogers, and the leader of the opposition, Hon. Dean Lindo, appeared together before the fourth committee of the United Nations today to reject the Guatemalan claim to Belize and to assert the right of the people of Belize to self-determination and independence.

Delivering a joint statement on behalf of the government and the opposition, Mr. Rogers said that Belize has participated in negotiations between Britain and Guatemala not in recognition of any right whatsoever that Guatemala may presume, but to attempt to secure conditions of peace, security and stability in the region when as of right Belize takes its own independence.

The Belizean delegation stated categorically that it is for the people of Belize to decide when to request the independence of Belize and rejected Guatemala's contention that Belize is an integral part of Guatemalan territory.

Mr. Rogers said that the issue of territorial integrity is an absolute non-negotiable principle for the government and people of Belize.

The Belizean delegation asked the United Nations fourth committee to support a new resolution which recognises that Guatemala does not have a veto over the independence of Belize.

Notwithstanding the outcome of negotiations between Britain and Guatemala, the statement continued, the people of Belize reserve the right to request their constitutional independence at a time of their own choosing. And whatever emerges from the negotiations between these two governments should not endanger the security of an independent Belize.

Present at the United Nations today supporting Mr. Rogers' statement was a three (3) member delegation from the opposition United Democratic Party including Mr. Lindo, Senator Kenneth Tillett and Mr. Manuel Esquivel.

Rogers Addresses United Nations

FL111125Y Belize City THE BELIZE TIMES in English 3 Dec 78 pp 1, 2, 15, 16 FL

[Text] 29 November 1978--Mr. Chairman distinguished delegates: Belize appears before this fourth committee of the United Nations once again, not as a sovereign nation, but still as a colony, at a time when colonialism's last remaining edifices are fast being dismantled by the march of history. The latest example of this phenomenon is the accession to independence of the new American nation of Dominica which we take this opportunity to congratulate. We hope that the rest of the former British associated states in the Caribbean will similarly move on to freedon shortly, without further complications.

Despite the differences which exist between our two parties, today both the deputy premier and the leader of the opposition of Belize are here jointly to reject the Guatemalan claim to our territory and to assert the right of the people of Belize to self-determination and independence.

Mr. Chairman, shortly after the adoption last November by the General Assembly of Resolution 32-32, reaffirming Belize's right to independence and territorial integrity, we learned that the United Kingdom Government and the Guatemalan Government were holding exploratory discussions which included the possibility of the cession of parts of the territory of Belize to Guatemala as the price for the independence of the remainder. The Belize Government firmly rejected and resisted the possibility of ceding land, and secured from the United Kingdom an undertaking that any negotiated settlement must be put directly to the people of Belize for their decision. A meeting of Commonwealth Caribbean foreign ministers held in Belize in February of this year confirmed and supported Belize's position.

No Land Cession

In April, a special national convention of the ruling People's United Party adopted a resolution requesting the United Kingdom Government to stop immediately any discussions with the Government of Guatemala which included the idea of land cession as a means of settlement. The leader of the opposition also categorically stated in the House of Representatives his party's position rejecting cession of land.

Both the government and the opposition in the National Assembly of Belize signed a memorandum of understanding agreeing to put the issue of the Anglo-Guatemalan dispute above party politics and to treat the search for a solution as a national objective. In accordance with this undertaking, representatives of both government and opposition held discussions with the British secretary of state in New York in September. During this same period the secretary of state was putting forward certain new proposals to Guatemala's foreign minister, since the previous series of negotiations had come to an end a few months before.

Mr. Chairman, at this point, I might note that the election of a new government in Guatemala earlier this year raised hopes in many quarters that a more reasonable approach would be adopted by Guatemala. We regret to report, however, that there is no evidence to suggest that this is in fact so.

Expansionist Ambition of Guatemala

The negotiations called for in Resolution 32-32 of 28 November 1977 have still not taken place. The proposals put forward by the United Kingdom in September, which have been outlined to this committee by the distinguished representative of the United Kingdom, have not been formally replied to by the Guatemalans. While Guatemala has purposely prevaricated and refused to give a formal response to these proposals, they have made clear in other ways that they have certainly not abandoned their expansionist ambitions and neocolonialist designs over Belizean territory.

I refer specifically to the statement of the foreign minister of Guatemala to the General Assembly on 3 October 1978, and I quote: "Guatemala maintains firmly, as it always has, and will continue to do, its claim for the recovery of the territory...All it wishes is to recover part of its territory."

I also refer to the statement of petitioner Anthony Martinez, who clearly spoke as the mouthpiece of Guatemala to this committee on November 22 when he proposed the cession of a "token" amount of territory to Guatemala as a solution to the dispute.

Guatemalan Agents in Belize

Mr. Chairman, representatives of Guatemala speak glibly about imagined oppression of ethnic minorities in Belize while conveniently forgetting their record of treatment of their own ethnic majorities--many of whom constantly cross our borders to seek refuge and a better life within the democratic and free ambience of Belize. Many Guatemalans--students, workers and teachers--support the aspirations of the Belizean people for freedom and independence, but they are forbidden under edict to demonstrate this support. The fact that pro-Guatemalan petitioners like Martinez and Vernon and Caliz can come to this organization and put forward their false and baseless allegations against the Belizean people with impunity speaks more for the guarantees of the protection of basic rights that is a part of Belizean tradition than the libellous and false statements they make at the bidding of their Guatemalan employers.

Mr. Chairman, Guatemalan representatives tell this committee that they are willing to seek ways to arrive at meaningful and constructive coexistence with the people of Belize; yet Guatemala continues to employ fringe subversive operatives within Belize to create confusion and mischief. They continue to beam propaganda broadcasts against the government and people of Belize from their radio stations. And they are now constructing a television facility near our border to intensify this campaign.

Belize's Right to Independence

Their persistent pursuit of this unfounded and anachronistic claim to our territory is an affront to the fundamental principles upheld by the United Nations Charter. Belize respects the right of the United Nations to give guidelines for the solution of this problem, and will continue to insist on the strict adherence to U.N. resolutions concerning Belize. We are surprised that the representative of Guatemala continues to denounce what he calls interference from this body when we recall that the 30th General Assembly overwhelmingly confirmed, in a special vote, the competence of the United Nations to deal with the question of Belize as a legitimate case for decolonization.

Mr. Chairman, with your permission, I would like to state clearly and categorically the position of the government and people of Belize:

The people of Belize have an inalienable right to independence.

The people of Belize alone exercise real sovereignty over their territory, and recognize only that the United Kingdom as the administering authority holds the territory in trust.

The people of Belize have participated in negotiations between the United Kingdom and Guatemala not in recognition of any claim or any right whatsoever that Guatemala may presume, as we have stated before in this committee, but to attempt to secure conditions of peace, security and stability in the region when as of right we take our own independence.

Guatemala states that it opposes a sudden or unilaterally granted independence for Belize, as well as any act aimed at transforming the status of Belize by Britain behind Guatemala's back. We state that it is for the people of Belize to decide when to request the independence of Belize.

Belize Never a Part of Guatemala

We reject Guatemala's contention that the territory of Belize is an integral part of the national Guatemalan territory. [paragraph continues]

The attempts of Guatemala's representative to suggest to this committee that his country's vital interests require territorial cession are not convincing. He defines three concerns: The question of access to the Caribbean Sea, the demarcation of territorial waters, and the security of the area. As we have heard from the United Kingdom representative, the September proposals provide a satisfactory response to each of these concerns. Although Guatemala has its own Caribbean coast with two modern seaports, they have been offered free port facilities in Belize City. They have been offered a seaward boundary as part of a settlement which would guarantee Guatemala permanent and secure access from her ports to the high seas through her own territorial sea. And they have been offered a separate treaty of amity and mutual security. The willingness of Belize to agree to these proposals reveals the sincerity with which we seek an honourable settlement; the failure of Guatemala to respond, and its insistence on land cession, reveals their intransigence, inflexibility and expansionist designs.

Self-Determination Overriding Principle

Mr. Chairman, the entire thrust of the address of Guatemala's representative to this committee has been to insist that the matter is essentially of a territorial nature and of a juridical character. While we, with the overwhelming support of the member states of the United Nations, maintain that it is the principle of self-determination which is the over-riding principle applying to the question of Belize, as to all questions of decolonization, we also firmly believe that even on strictly juridical grounds Guatemala's claim to the territory of Belize is untenable.

Two internationally respected authorities, Mr. E. Lauterpacht, Q.C., and Dr. D.W. Bowett, Q.C., have just completed the formidable task of an indepth study of the legal and historical issues surrounding Guatemala's claim to the territory of Belize. We have the benefit of their considered advice contained in an opinion dated 18 September 1978, from which, with your permission, sir, I should like to quote the following:

"We conclude only by emphasizing the essentials: that the territory (of Belize) was British before 1859; and the 1859 treaty is, therefore, not a treaty of cession; that it is arguable that Britain may have been in breach of Article 7 of the 1859 treaty, but that any such breach can in no way establish a title to Belize in Guatemala; and finally, that in any event, contemporary international law requires regard to be had to the principle of self-determination--the effect of which is emphatically to exclude the Guatemalan claim." (unquote)

Belizean Territory Not Negotiable

The question of territorial integrity for Belize is an absolute, non-negotiable principle for the government and people of Belize. This right has been reaffirmed in three United Nations resolutions concerning Belize--34-32 (XXX) of 8 December 1975, 31-50 of 1 December 1976, and 32-32 of 28 November 1977. Many Latin American countries in the Organization of American States are increasingly accepting the same principle as the Organization of African Unity concerning the recognition and acceptance of territorial boundaries existing at the time of independence, recognizing that any change in borders in the Americas today are fraught with potential dangers to regional peace and stability.

In a context where Guatemala withdraws its territoral claim and recognises and respects our sovereignty and territorial integrity, Belize would be prepared to make agreements with Guatemala relating to non-aggression and ensuring the security of the area.

Belize comes to the United Nations this year, bolstered by your conviction in the rightness of our struggle and your support over the years for the basic principles of self-determination, independence and the reservation of the territorial integrity of Belize. We ask this committee to reaffirm these principles in a new resolution--a resolution which recognises that Guatemala does not have a veto over the independence of Belize. Notwithstanding the outcome of negotiations between the United Kingdom and Guatemala, the people of Belize reserve the right to request their constitutional independence at a time of their own choosing; and whatever emerges from the negotiations between these two governments should not endanger the security of an independent Belize.

Support From Non-Aligned

Mr. Chairman, we thank the frontline Caribbean states who have tirelessly championed the right of Belize to survive. We thank the Latin American states, the majority of whom have come out in support of the right of the people of Belize to self-determination, independence and territorial integrity. We thank the commonwealth of nations and the United Nations for supporting our just cause. We are particularly heartened by the declaration of the conference of ministers of foreign affairs of non-aligned countries held at Belgrade from 25 to 30 July 1978, and I quote from this declaration:

"The ministers reaffirm their unconditional support for the inalienable right of the people of Belize to self-determination, independence and territorial integrity, and express grave concern over the persistence of pressures on the threats to the inviolability and territorial integrity of Belize.

"The ministers recognise that this situation perpetuates colonialism in the hemisphere, could constitute a threat to peace and security and prevent the development of more harmonious relations between the countries of the region.

"The ministers endorse the policy of the Government of Belize aimed at achieving the early and safe independence of the territory and note that this can be done either by means of a negotiated settlement acceptable to its people or by establishing security arrangements that may be necessary for guaranteeing the independence and territorial integrity of Belize."

In this conclusion, the ministers also note the special responsibility of Great Britain to assist Belize in attaining a secure independence.

"In urging strict implementation of United Nations Resolution 32-32 of 28 November 1977, we call on all member states of the movement and of the international community to render all practical assistance necessary to enable Belize to advance rapidly towards an early and secure independence with full sovereign territorial integrity."

Eliminate Possible Source of Conflict

Mr. Chairman, we believe it is for the international community, particularly the United Nations, the non-aligned movement, and the Organization of American States, to demonstrate appropriately to Guatemala that so long as it persists in its threat to the independence and territorial integrity of Belize, it flaunts and rejects the very principles that are the cornerstones of these organizations, and therefore cannot continue to be welcome in their ranks. And we appeal to the nations of this hemisphere and elsewhere who have hitherto exercised considerable influence in the course of peace, fundamental right and justice, to direct their efforts toward the elimination of a possible source of conflict in this hemisphere.

PRO-BELIZEAN RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY UN COMMITTEE

FL111250Y Belize City THE BELIZE TIMES in English 6 Dec 78 pp 1, 7 FL

[Text] Belize scored an impressive victory at the United Nations today when one-hundred and eighteen nations of the one-hundred and thirty-four present voted "yes" to a strong new resolution separating the independence of Belize from the outcome of negotiations between Britain and Guatemala.

A counter-resolution, prepared and presented by Guatemala, was rejected by the fourth committee of the United Nations in a vote of eighty-two against to fifteen in favour, in what has been described as "a severe blow" to the new Guatemalan administration.

The two resolutions on Belize were the subject of heated debate in the fourth committee. The matter was settled today when the chairman called for a vote on the two documents. There were a hundred and thirty-four representatives of the one-hundred and fifty member fourth committee present at the voting.

The pro-Belize resolution, which was sponsored by forty-five countries, was adopted by a vote of one-hundred and eighteen in favour; four against; and twelve abstentions. The Guatemalan draft was rejected by eighty-two against; fifteen in favour; and thirty-three abstentions.

Within the region, Panama stood firmly behind Belize by co-sponsoring and voting for the pro-Belize resolution. The majority of the large Latin American countries, including Mexico, Argentina, Cuba, Peru and Venezuela, voted for Belize; while in Central America, Costa Rica, which has traditionally supported Guatemala, today abstained; and El Salvador did not vote. All the non-aligned nations voted solidly for Belize.

The deputy premier of Belize, Hon. C. L. B. Rogers, who was present at the United Nations for the voting, later thanked delegates for their support. Mr. Rogers said that today's United Nations vote is a victory for all the people of Belize, who want to see their borders remain intact and who yearn for freedom and independence. He said that by supporting Belize for so many years by stronger resolutions, the United Nations is saying to Guatemala that the dispute must be settled once and for all; that there should be no land cession; and that the Belizean people's aspirations for independence must be fulfilled.

The deputy premier also saw the vote as a rejection of the statements of Vernon, Martinez and Caliz, and an appreciation of the fact that in presenting its case to the fourth committee, Belize spoke with one voice. Only one resolution now goes to the United Nations General Assembly for adoption later this month and it is expected that Belize will gain additional support in that body.

COSTA RICA

SECURITY MINISTER REPORTS ON TRIP TO CANAL ZONE

PA081413Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Public Security Minister Juan Jose Echeverria Brealey has told the government council that during his visit to the Panama Canal Zone he was offered all kinds of aid to our country. He noted that the only aid he accepted was a training course for the crewmen of the patrol boats recently acquired by the government.

OPPOSITION PARTY WARNS AGAINST MILITARIZATION EFFORTS

PA071318Y San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 4 Dec 78 p 27A PA

[Paid advertisement by Armando Arauz Aguilar, head of National Liberation Party Bloc]

[Text] COSTA RICA WILL NOT BE MILITARIZED

Unfortunately for Costa Rica, one of the most outstanding characteristics of the present administration is the systematic manner in which it refuses to discuss important national matters. When it replies to criticism--because most of the time it remains silent--it uses the most ignoble weapons in politics: insults, threats and lies.

These weapons already form a substantial part of the "style of government" of the present administration which is clearly reflected in the replies that the presidential house drafts or inspires third parties to draft. The most recent example of this attitude was evident in the reply published by LA NACION on 30 November to the statements made by Liberationist Deputy Oscar Arias Sanchez regarding the government's efforts to militarize the country.

We hope the public will not be deceived and can decide for itself where there is demagogy and where there are concepts, where there is bravery and where there is cowardice, where there is insult and where there is abuse, and where there is respect and where there is cynicism. In order to clarify matters we are reproducing Arias Sanchez' declarations.

DEPUTY OSCAR ARIAS SANCHEZ

"THE PRESIDENTIAL CONDUCT IS COSTING THE COUNTRY DEARLY."

"In a continent plagued by dictatorships yesterday and today, there has rarely existed, as in the case of Somoza and the Nicaraguans, such a great distance between the bloody hand of the tyrant and the sufferings of a people.

"Unfortunately, the Nicaraguan conflict has already cost two Costa Rican lives. I am sure that the pain and outrage felt by Costa Rica over the death of two humble Civil Guards killed by the Somozist guard is shared by the fraternal Nicaraguan people, who know who is responsible for this new crime.

"At this time when the Nicaraguan people are struggling for freedom, they have not asked Costa Rica for martyrs; they have asked only for asylum, understanding and humanitarianism. They expect from us only what is proper from a nation with ingrained traditions of peace, brotherhood, freedom and democracy.

"Following one of the habitual provocations of the Somozist guard, former President Daniel Oduber asked the public force to coordinate its activities on the northern border. All Costa Ricans understood the meaning of these instructions and the purpose behind them. It was a matter of preventing the internal Nicaraguan conflict from shedding Costa Rican blood. However, there was someone with demagogic intentions who tried to distort the meaning of the presidential instructions and he was even accused of conniving with the Somoza regime. A statesman never lets himself be carried away by his emotions because he knows well the painful consequences which may follow.

"Today we are not only coordinating activities along the border, but within our most profound civilist tradition we are talking of purchasing military aircraft and antiaircraft guns. [paragraph continues]

"We are even told about a trip by Deputy Public Security Minister Henrique Montealegre to purchase helicopters from the U. S. Army. Our president, with a total lack of historical awareness, seems to forget that arming a nation is meaningful only when it can outstrip an enemy nation. This, as we all know, is the basic principle of the arms race which the world is experiencing today.

"It is also contradictory that, facing a rather drab economic perspective and while we discuss a national budget notable for the largest deficit in our history, we are being told that we need additional income. This income is not to build roads, schools or health centers but to purchase a handful of weapons which would destroy the greatest moral force which Costa Rica has before the world--the lack of an army. Yesterday we went to the United Nations seeking support to build a peace university, but today we are going to the United States to obtain its support to purchase armaments.

"The presidential conduct is costing the country dearly. I am sure that the patriots killed while defending our country would be the first to oppose militarization of our Civil Guard. May God permit that their supreme sacrifice not be stained in order to justify the contrary."

The National Liberation Party [PLN] will not be frightened by the methods used by Carazo Odio's administration. We shall continue to engage the government in debates on important national matters and we shall not allow silence, at times, and insults, at other times, to distract public opinion from its essential participation in the discussion of problems affecting the country's future.

We repeat with emphasis the statements of the PLN's congressional bloc, published in the country's newspapers on 22 November 1978, and especially our assertion that facts indicate that the present administration is leading us little by little toward a militarization that we cannot accept as Costa Rican citizens or as deputies. We are determined to strive by all means in our power to prevent our country from having an army, a regular militia or, what is more serious, a paramilitary organization. The Public Security Ministry is playing a dangerous game which we have emphatically denounced because it is a threat to our national peace and may cause us to lose the respect we have earned before the international community due to our pacifist tradition.

THE NATIONAL LIBERATION PARTY BLOC

Armando Arauz Aguilar, chief of bloc

San Jose, 4 December 1978

YOUTH TRIBUNAL WEIGHS EVIDENCE AGAINST SOMOZA

PA081623Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0449 GMT 8 Dec 78 PA

[Text] San Jose, 7 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--A tribunal, established outside the framework of the Costa Rican Supreme Court of Justice, has ruled that there is sufficient evidence to try Nicaraguan President Gen Anastasio Somoza for alleged crimes "against humanity and against peace" and for being a "war criminal."

The sessions were held on Saturday in San Jose but it was not until today that the decision of the tribunal, which is comprised of Central American lawyers, was fully released to the press.

A document states that "sufficient evidence has been gathered to decide that there is cause for bringing Anastasio Somoza to trial for serious and reiterated violations of human rights in the economic, social, cultural, civil and political areas."

It adds that "in view of such evidence, it plans to place him before an international court which will be installed in the future."

"In due time, all files must be placed at the disposition of a competent tribunal of the Republic of Nicaragua so that the proper penalty can be decided," the document states.

The Nicaraguan president, his National Guard and his government were charged with committing 17 actions contrary to law. The trial was organized by youths of political parties and representatives of Costa Rican students.

Witnesses of various acts of repression--described as such by the witnesses and the participants in the hearing--testified in the process, stressing that those who fight against the General Somoza government should receive the treatment that international treaties establish for combatants.

The jury insisted that the events which have taken place in Nicaragua during recent months make it evident that an armed conflict without international character has occurred in that Central American nation and that because of this the combatants must be considered "prisoners of war." [sentence as received]

It was announced that the trial against Somoza will be taken to the ultimate consequences. The process carried out in San Jose against the Nicaraguan president is described as the first step in the long and patient road of the historical trial against Anastasio Somoza Debayle. The second step will be to turn over the evidence gathered to an international court and finally to resort to a competent Nicaraguan tribunal which will set the corresponding penalties.

BRIEFS

ELECTRIC CONNECTION WITH NICARAGUA--San Jose, 7 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--The Costa Rican Legislative Assembly has approved the financing of an electric interconnection project between Costa Rica and Nicaragua. The loan of the Central American Economic Integration Bank to the Costa Rican Electricity Institute amounts to $5.2 million. Beginning in the last months of 1980, Costa Rica will sell electric energy to the Nicaraguan National Light and Power Enterprise. [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2105 GMT 7 Dec 78 PA]

EL SALVADOR

PRESIDENT HUMBERTO ROMERO TO VISIT MEXICO 18 JANUARY

PA0814l4Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0424 GMT 8 Dec 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 7 Dec (AFP)--Salvadoran President Carlos Humberto Romero will make an official visit to Mexico beginning 18 January, it was learned today from press sources in this capital. Today's press affirmed that [Salvadoran] Ambassador to Mexico Guillermo Paz Larin is here to prepare the agenda for the Salvadoran chief of state.

ARCHBISHOP DISCUSSES PRIEST'S TIES WITH FPL

PA110137Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1818 GMT 10 Dec 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 10 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Archbishop of San Salvador Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero stated today, Sunday, that he was completely unaware of the political militancy of the late Priest Rafael Ernesto Barrera Motto.

The prelate was referring to a communique issued by the illegal Farabundo Marti Popular Liberation Forces (FPL) which announced that the priest and three other persons who died in a clash last week were militants.

The prelate said, however, that he is awaiting confirmation that the FPL communique is authentic. He noted the position of the church is that of carrying out any pastoral service requested by any given person, party or organization; that the prime objective of a priest is to act as a promoter and leader of the Christian faith. He added that the basic role of a priest is to keep alive the evangelic norms of oath and action [juramento y accion] and to remember, as Jesus did, our Father's love for mankind. He explained that if there is an exceptional case in which a priest is asked to cooperate in the mechanics of a political effort, then it would be up to the bishop who, inspired by his faith, would judge the apostolic value of such cooperation in a Christian manner.

The prelate said that every time he spoke with Father Barrera they discussed the importance and the challenge of being a promoter of faith and justice in a workers' parish. The monsignor said that the priest never told him he was cooperating with or had joined the FPL. If that is true, the priest acted without the knowledge or approval of the archbishop.

The prelate said that the FPL's claims concerning Father Barrera Motto were untimely. He added that priests who join these groups are rendering a disservice to the church.

The prelate also stated that the FPL has done a disservice in boasting about the militancy of the priest and noted that that group does not care for the church.

FARN THREATENS TO CONTINUE KIDNAPINGS

PA091736Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2344 GMT 8 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 8 Dec (AFP)--The Armed Forces of National Resistance, a new Salvadoran guerrilla group, today threatened to continue kidnaping executives of transnational corporations. It currently holds four executives. They are British bankers Ian Massie and Michael Chatterton, manager of the Dutch Phillips Company Fritz Schuiteman and a Japanese citizen, Takakazu Suzuki.

GUATEMALAN CONSUL KILLED BY PEASANTS

PA091715Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Dec 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador--Enraged peasants, armed with machetes, killed a Guatemalan consul yesterday along a road on the outskirts of San Salvador after the car which he was driving ran over a girl and killed her, according to police. Consul Carlos Alarcon was driving his car last night along the road to Santa Tecla 13 km west [of San Salvador] when the accident took place.

BRIEFS

ABSENCE OF COFFEE RUST--The Salvadoran Coffee Research Institute has reported that no coffee rust disease was found during the eighth technical sampling of more than 68,000 manzanas of coffee fields from 13 to 24 November. The 96 technicians who participated in the operation also evaluated the coffeegrowers' preparations in view of a possible outbreak of the disease. [San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 2 Dec 78 pp 5, 76 PA]

NICARAGUA

SOMOZA READS AMNESTY BILL TO BE SENT TO CONGRESS

PA120059Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2359 GMT 11 Dec 78 PA

[Speech to the nation by Nicaraguan President Anastasio Somoza; place not given--live]

[Text] Fellow citizens: With the purpose of contributing to the nation's peace, to the unification of families now divided and to national harmony and in accordance with what has been agreed upon by the Nationalist Liberal Party convention and the international commission of friendly cooperation, I shall read to the people of Nicaragua the draft of the amnesty bill which my administration is presenting to Congress for its study and approval within the shortest time possible required by a law of such importance.

For me, it is of the greatest importance to present this bill, which will open a new door for national conciliation to all Nicaraguans, and I hope that they will abide by it. The draft reads as follows:

The Chamber of Deputies and the Senate of the Nicaraguan Republic decree:

Article 1. A broad and unconditional amnesty is granted to civilians and military members for political crimes included in Chapters 1 and 2 of Title 11 and Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 4 of Title 12, Book II of the Penal Code, committed from 3 March 1967, date of the last amnesty, until 11 December 1978. The present amnesty refers to common and related crimes and to civil responsibility. [as heard]

Article 2. The corresponding authorities will release the prisoners favored by this amnesty as soon as the bill goes into effect. The bill will have the legal effect of a definite stay of proceedings.

Article 3. The Nicaraguan consuls abroad will immediately issue visas for the passports of those who decide to return to the country in accordance with the amnesty decreed.

Article 4. This decree will be in effect from the date of its publication in the official GAZETTE.

Given at the session room of the Chamber of Deputies, Managua, National District

This is the draft of the bill which we are sending to the legislative chambers to be discussed and, God willing, approved so that we may have this amnesty prior to Christmas and peace in Nicaraguan homes. Thank you.

FAO MEETS TO DISCUSS PROPOSED AMNESTY LAW

PA120249Y Managua Estacion X in Spanish 0010 GMT 12 Dec 78 PA

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The leadership of the small group of organizations which comprise the so-called Broad Opposition Front [FAO] met this afternoon. Among the topics discussed was the implementation of the proposed amnesty bill and last week's resignation of Rodolfo Robelo Herrera of the Independent Liberal Party.

According to Alfonso Robelo, another leader of the FAO, that party does not have any great strength within the FAO and its presence was only symbolic.

[Words indistinct] it must be noted that none of the organizations within the FAO have any importance or any support from the Nicaraguan citizenry. Moreover, the FAO is already in complete agreement with holding talks with the top leadership of the Nationalist Liberal Party, having finally realized that absolutely [words indistinct] with the groups of the so-called Sandino-communist front.

FSLN FACTION URGES FAO TO ABANDON NEGOTIATIONS

PA111758Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1706 GMT 11 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 11 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--The Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN), Tertiary faction, today urged the Broad Opposition Front (FAO) to abandon the negotiations with the international mediation commission and to denounce the plebiscite proposed by the commission as "a maneuver of Anastasio Somoza and Yankee imperialism."

Questioning whether Somoza and the FAO are the same thing, the Sandinists stated that the FAO has no other alternative but to prove that it has acted honestly "since the U.S. Government today, as yesterday, is trying to impose a treacherous and traitorous government on us."

The Tertiary faction reiterated its opposition to the plebiscite and said that the solution to the current Nicaraguan crisis "is the continuous armed struggle which the people, armed for the insurrection, are waging throughout our territory."

The communique, which is signed by Humberto and Daniel Ortega and Victor Manuel Tirado of the national directorate, and by Eden Pastora, German Pomares and Joaquin Cuadra of the Sandinist army general staff, calls upon the honest men who comprise the FAO not to falter and to prevent the mediation commission from using them as tools.

It stresses that the mediators (a commission made up of representatives from Guatemala, the Dominican Republic and the United States) have already persuaded the FAO to accept the dialog with the Liberal Party (Somozist) representatives, with Somoza still in power, while it had previously demanded the immediate removal of the incumbent president.

In turn, FAO leader Alfonso Robelo denied playing Somoza's game just because meetings have been held with the ruling party commission.

The objective of the dialog was to implement the amnesty which will allow political prisoners to regain their freedom and the exiles and refugees to return to their homes as soon as possible.

CARDENAL SCORES CARTER STATEMENTS ON FAO, FSLN

PA112016Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 11 Dec 78 PA

[Report on news conference with Nicaraguan priest and FSLN leader Ernesto Cardenal, by correspondent Ricardo Gonzalez on 11 December; place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Begin Cardenal recording] Somoza now says that the situation in Nicaragua is going to ease up. That it is like a hyena claiming it is going to become human. This is not possible with the murderous National Guard or with Somoza, who is an assassin, a war criminal, in the biggest genocide in America.

Regarding the amnesty, there are over 3,000 political prisoners in Nicaragua and over 600 refugees in the embassies. Soon this situation will be repeated in Nicaragua. The prisons will again be filled with political prisoners and the embassies with refugees. Besides, Somoza only admits that there are 200 prisoners. Therefore, the so-called amnesty will only benefit those 200 out of 3,000 or more prisoners currently in Nicaraguan prisons.

Can I ask Somoza to grant amnesty to the dead? No, the situation in Nicaragua will not change as long as Somoza remains there.

If the Broad Opposition Front [FAO] negotiates with Somoza, like others who have tried in the past, it will be a political party's suicide, a mass suicide like that of Guyana. We hope that the FAO will discontinue its talks with the mediating commission. [end recording]

Asked about the possible overthrow of the Somoza regime in December as a Christmas present to the Nicaraguan people, Father Cardenal replied that only the FSLN leadership could answer that, that such a decision is in the hands of the Nicaraguan people.

Referring to a U.S. report which identified the FAO with the FSLN, Father Cardenal said:

[Begin recording] I was told that President Carter had announced that the FAO, which represents the FSLN, was going to negotiate with Somoza. This is a very serious mistake on President Carter's part, to think that the FAO represents the FSLN. It does not in any way. This shows President Carter's ignorance concerning Nicaragua. He should not talk about the matter, much less make decisions concerning Nicaragua, if he does not even know what the FAO and the FSLN are. Besides, he could be charged with slander against the FSLN by making such a statement.

How can the Sandinists negotiate with the assassin of Sandino, with the dynasty that murdered Sandino? How can President Carter think that the FSLN will negotiate with a war criminal and a perpetrator of genocide like Somoza? Only somebody like Carter can have an understanding with an assassin and a perpetrator of a genocide like Somoza, but the FSLN will not. [end recording]

Cardenal Comments Further

San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 12 Dec 78 PA

[Text] When Priest [Ernesto] Cardenal was asked about divisions within the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN], he said: I appeal for Sandinist unity around Sandino, the leader. The front has never promoted a personality cult. Hence, there is no leader for whom to fight. There is only the cause--the Nicaraguan people.

Father Gaspar Garcia fell in combat in "El Infierno" near the San Juan River. Ernesto Cardenal said that he had no official reports of this but that it did not surprise him that Garcia should have been cut down by Somoza's National Guard.

Cardenal described the mediation commission as an interventionist commission and said that the Washington plan is a trick. He said that the parties of the Broad Opposition Front are eliminating themselves by their negotiations with Somoza. He added that the Washington plan would leave Somoza as president of the Congress and that he would then manage everything as he wished.

Cardenal said that the FSLN's intelligence services have determined that there are newsmen who are serving Somoza.

Father Ernesto Cardenal said that there is a campaign underway abroad to create the impression that there is complicity on the part of the governments of Costa Rica, Panama and Venezuela with the FSLN. He said that there are newsmen abroad who are lending themselves to that campaign, including a newsmen of LA PRENSA LIBRE here in Costa Rica.

REPORT ON ARMED CLASH, FSLN UNITY, NEW FAO LEADER

PA120446Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0422 GMT 12 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpts] Managua, 11 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Shortly after President Somoza spoke to the country to announce a bill for an amnesty for political prisoners, an armed clash took place in the city of Diriamba, 40 km south of Managua, in what is just another day in the Nicaraguan political crisis. The armed clash took place tonight shortly after President Somoza spoke over a radio and television network for approximately 5 minutes to announce the amnesty bill that his government has prepared.

Regarding the clash or shootout which took place in Diriamba, the Red Cross said that it had attended to three injured civilians who apparently did not participate in the incident. From another quarter, Monsignor Guillermo Quintanilla, parish priest at one of the Diriamba churches, said that following the shots which were heard between 1900 and 1930, no one dared to go out in the streets.

The Sandinist Front issued a communique this evening announcing the unification of three of its factions: Prolonged People's War, Proletarian and Insurrectional. The latter is apparently a branch of the front's Tertiary faction. The communique, which carries three seals, notes that the three factions have joined their political and military forces so that the struggle of the Nicaraguan people will not be defeated and will continue until there is a government that will guarantee national sovereignty and the social and economic progress of the working people.

Meanwhile, the Broad Opposition Front (FAO) met this evening and decided to appoint Luis Sanchez, a young Marxist-Leninist, as the new member of the FAO political committee. He replaces Rodolfo Robelo Herrera, who resigned this past weekend.

FSLN COMMANDER KILLED IN CLASH WITH NATIONAL GUARD

PA111742Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1711 GMT 11 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 11 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Gaspar Garcia Laviana, the Spanish priest and Sandinist commander, died early this morning in a clash with the Nicaraguan National Guard, according to the National Guard's Legal and Public Relations Office. The guerrilla-priest was killed in a place known as "El Infierno," Rivas Department, close to the Costa Rican border.

The Nicaraguan National Guard reported that about 0600 in the morning, after an exchange of gunfire with a Sandinist internationalist brigade, two bodies were found. One of them was the Spanish priest of the Sacred Heart missionary order, Gaspar Garcia Laviana.

Father Garcia Laviana, born in 1941, had been promoted to the rank of commander of the Sandinist Front in September during the great offensive against Somoza. After the offensive he emerged as a member of the Sandinist Front's national general staff, making him one of the leading military figures in the anti-Somozist guerrillas. Gaspar Garcia, from Tuilla (Langreo, Asturias), was until today one of the men most sought after by the Somoza regime, which he fought first from the pulpit as the parish priest of San Juan del Sur and subsequently with firearms.

ATTACKS ON UN MISSIONS DRAW CRITICISM OF CIA

FL081220Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Cuba has urged the United States to adopt measures to apprehend, prosecute and punish everyone responsible for criminal actions committed against the missions accredited to the United Nations.

Luis Sola, Cuban representative to the jurdicial affairs committee, asserted that the Cuban Government still is waiting for the capture of persons responsible for the attack on the Cuban mission to the United Nations in New York on 9 September last. Our mission, he said, has a permanent guard provided by the New York police. Nevertheless, the bomb was placed and exploded. The following day, he recalled, the self-styled "Omega 7" organization publicly announced that it had carried out the terrorist action.

The Cuban representative added that these terrorist and counterrevolutionary organizations were recruited, trained and financed by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency--CIA--as part of its aggressive policy toward the Cuban revolution.

After noting that apparently there has not been real interest in capturing and prosecuting the persons responsible for the attack, the Cuban representative indicated that it is not the first time that our country has been forced to denounce these criminal actions.

COSTA RICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR VISIT

FL120156Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 12 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Twenty four deputies from the Costa Rican Legislative Assembly arrived this afternoon at Jose Marti International Airport. The deputies were invited by the Cuban people's government National Assembly, and were received at the airport by Raul Roa, member of the PCC Central Committee and vice president of the National Assembly, Jose Aranaburo, secretary of the top legislative organ in our country, and Aleida March, president of the foreign relations committee of the National Assembly. The delegation of Costa Rican legislators is headed by (Hubert Rojas), member of the Costa Rican Legislative Assembly directorate and deputy of the united party. The distinguished visitors were accompanied by (Manuel Rivero), Cuban consul-general to Costa Rica.

FEEM LETTER TO CASTRO STRESSES HONESTY, HARD WORK

FL111648Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1502 GMT 11 Dec 78 FL

[Text] The delegates to the fourth national meeting of the Federation of Intermediate Level Students [FEEM] have sent a letter to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro in which they voice the firm commitment of continuing to make efforts toward higher quality achievements. In that sense they propose to increase tasks by attending classes every day and being on time, and to develop a tenacious and intrasigent struggle against educational fraud in our country.

The FEEM document notes the decision of training the members of the organization as true examples of formal education and exemplary conduct in society. They will also work for eliminating new habits and stopping them from spreading to the great masses of those who today are standard-bearers of the best of our people and youth.

The fourth FEEM national meeting concluded in Havana City after conducting the electoral and evaluation process undertaken by the organization since the start of the present school term. The participants in the event ratified Jorge Antonio Leyva as president of the FEEM national council and Deborah Hernandez as vice president. The event was chaired by Jose Ramon Fernandez, vice vice president of the Council of Ministers, and Luis Orlando Dominguez, first secretary of the Union of Young Communists National Committee, both members of the PCC Central Committee.

The meeting's final document proclaims the need for continuing to work to see to it that every student fulfills with integrity his first social obligation: to study more, to study better, to study always.

In his closing remarks, Luis Orlando Dominguez pointed out that the examination and discussion of problems and the agreements reached in the meeting demonstrate the degree of maturity attained by the organization. Dominguez stressed that study, work and cultural, political and ideological training constitute sacred duties of the present generation of FEEM members. He defined fraud as the result of the shallowness of bad students who have to resort to those means to deceive society and their relatives. Final promotion, inadequate use of the uniforms and the importance of formal education were other aspects taken up by Dominguez in his closing remarks.

WORKERS TO STUDY FIDEL CASTRO CTC CONGRESS SPEECH

FL081119Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Dec 78 FL

[Text] The speech which Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, made at the closing session of the 14th labor congress will be studied by more than 2 million workers throughout the country from January to February. The important speech containing the teachings of our commander in chief in this way will become a valuable document and guide for workers in the struggle to solve vital economic problems in accordance with the guidelines of our revolution's maximum leader.

FIDEL CASTRO 'INTERESTED' IN VISITING SPAIN

PA092315Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1832 GMT 9 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Havana, 9 Dec (EFE)--Fidel Castro, president of the Cuban Council of State, told this agency today that "I am very interested in visiting Spain, but no date has been set yet" for such a visit. During a short conversation with this agency's correspondent in Cuba, the Cuban president said that he could not yet say if the trip would take place in February or March but that he is very interested in visiting Spain. Fidel Castro made these statements at the end of a news conference held on the topic of the Cuban community abroad.

UN ENVOY FAULTS ELECTION IN NAMIBIA

FL091407Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Cuba has called on the international community to once and for all reject attempts to undermine Namibian independence and set up a puppet regime. Cuban Ambassador Raul Roa Kouri has said at the [UN] General Assembly that that organization should without hesitation adopt an integral program of economic sanctions to force South Africa to transfer the powers which belong to the Namibian people.

Roa Kouri stressed that there are only two paths left: to continue the armed struggle until the definitive defeat of the racists; or, if independence is to be achieved peacefully, to strictly apply the General Assembly and Security Council resolutions. In the debate on Namibia Rao Kouri insisted that the farcical election perpetrated by the racists and their Turnhalle puppets be declared null and invalid.

NICARAGUAN GOVERNMENT CONDEMNED AGAIN AT UN

FL081214Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Dec 78 FL

[Text] The permanent Cuban representative to the United Nations, Ambassador Raul Roa Kouri, again has condemned the dictatorial Somoza regime for its acts of genocide against the Nicaraguan people and its violations of Costa Rican sovereignty and territorial integrity. In speaking on the subject of strengthening international security, the Cuban representative said that recent events in Nicaragua are a threat to security and peace in the region and that the threat still exists.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON CEMA METALLURGY MEETING

Rafael Rodriguez Meets Delegation

FL082201Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2134 GMT 8 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the PCC Politburo, has received in this capital the chiefs of the delegations attending the 49th meeting of the CEMA standing commission for nonferrous metallurgy. During the fraternal meeting topics dealing with the work done by the CEMA standing commission for nonferrous metallurgy were discussed, especially aspects dealing with developments at the meeting. The meeting which Carlos Rafael Rodriguez had with the chiefs of the delegations attending the CEMA meeting also dealt with Cuba's participation in this CEMA commission and our country's growing development in nonferrous metallurgy. The delegation to the CEMA meeting has toured the mining-metallurgical zone in the north of Holguin Province during their stay in Cuba.

Meeting Concludes; Protocol Signed

FL091344Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Dec 78 FL

[Text] The 49th meeting of the CEMA standing commission for nonferrous metallurgy has concluded in this capital with the signing of the final protocol. (Pal Simon), president of the commission [Hungarian heavy industry minister], briefly evaluated the positive results of the discussions over the 5 days of sessions. Afterwards the chiefs of the delegations from Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, the GDR, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the USSR and Czechoslovakia signed the document. It was also signed by the representative from Yugoslavia, a country which participated in the meeting in agreement with the convention between that government and CEMA. Following this a communique was issued on the work carried out at the meeting.

IRAQI MILITARY DELEGATION MEETS WITH SENEN CASAS REGUEIRO

FL071224Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 7 Dec 78 FL

[Text] A Republic of Iraq military delegation headed by Brig Gen (Tareq Shukri), director general of troop training, is in our country on an official visit in response to an invitation of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] Ministry.

The objectives of the visit include an exchange of experiences between the armed forces of the two countries. As part of its activities in our country, the Iraqi military delegation has met with Div Gen Senen Casas Regueiro, member of the PCC Central Committee and Council of State and first vice minister-chief of the FAR General Staff.

Tours Country

FL091457Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 9 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Brig Gen (Tareq Shukri), director general of troop training of the Republic of Iraq, who is in our country on an official visit at the head of a military delegation, has gone on a tour which has included Revolutionary Armed Forces--FAR--units and sites of historical interest on the Isle of Youth, Santiago de Cuba and Havana. Div Gen Senen Casas, member of the PCC Central Committee and Council of State and first vice minister-chief of the General Staff, accompanied the delegation on its trip to the Isle of Youth and to the city of the birth of the revolution [Santiago de Cuba]. The Iraqi military delegation also visited the Gen Antonio Maceo inter-service school in Havana, accompanied by Colonels Andres Torres, chief of the FAR Ministry directorate of combat readiness, and Jose Palacios Suarez, director of the aforementioned school, who gave a briefing on its organization and study program and showed him some equipment. He also attended a demonstration of the cadet training process.

TEACHING BRIGADE TO ANGOLA HOLDS MEETING

FL091427Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Jose Ramon Fernandez, member of the PCC Central Committee and vice president of the Council of Ministers, has presided over in Guines [Hanava Province] the event at which the second Ernesto Che Guevara internationalist teaching brigade reaffirmed their decision to go to Angola for 2 years. Luis Orlando Dominguez, member of the PCC Central Committee and first secretary of the National Union of Young Communists (UJC), in making the closing remarks, stated that this event has a profound meaning because this second contingent has unanimously given a worthy response to the revolution, the party and to Fidel.

RODRIGUEZ MEETS WITH ANGOLAN BANKING OFFICIAL

FL091902Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the PCC Politburo and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has met with Carlos Victor de Carvalho, governor of the Angolan National Bank. The meeting was held in a fraternal and solidary atmosphere at which the ties of deep friendship binding Cuba and Angola were stressed. They also dealt with topics of cooperation between the two nations, especially in the field of banking.

SPARE PARTS EXHIBIT VISITED BY RAMIRO VALDES

FL071121Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Ramiro Valdes, member of the PCC Politburo and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, last night visited the national exposition of construction equipment spare parts, opened in an area of the youth fair. The exhibit shows the work effort of construction technicians, workers and specialists in that important economic field.

Pedro Miret Visits Display

FL071837Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 7 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Pedro Miret Prieto, member of the PCC Politburo and Council of State, has attended the inauguration of the national exhibit of construction equipment spare parts in an area of the youth fair in Havana City. The exhibit shows the work effort of construction technicians, workers and specialists in response to the call made by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro.

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION OPENING IN PARIS NOTED

FL071118Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Dec 78 FL

[Text] The fourth meeting of the French-Cuban mixed commission for economic and industrial cooperation opens in Paris on Monday. The two countries' delegations will be headed by Hector Rodriguez Llompart, minister-president of the Cuban State Committee for Economic Cooperation, and French Foreign Trade Minister Jean-Francois Deniau. In addition to such negotiations, Rodriguez Llompart will hold meetings with French industrial groups.

PHILIPPINES AGRICULTURE MINISTER ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

FL070031Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Dec 78 FL

[Text] World Food Council President and Philippines Agriculture Minister Arturo R. Tanco arrived in Cuba this afternoon at the invitation of our country's Agriculture Ministry.

POLISH PARTY OFFICIAL GREETED BY PEREZ HERRERO

FL071134Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Dec 78 FL

[Text] PCC Secretariat member Antonio Perez Herrero has received in this capital Andrzej Czyz, deputy director of the education and ideological work department of the Polish United Workers' Party Central Committee. Experiences gained in the teaching of Marxism-Leninism to party members and workers were discussed during the friendly meeting.

COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION DELEGATION LEAVES FOR GDR

FL120042Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Ramon Darias Rodes, minister-president of the State Committee for Standardization, has left for Berlin, the capital of the GDR, to attend the 44th session of the CEMA standing commission for standardization. During his stay in Berlin Darias Rodes will sign a direct bilateral agreement with the GDR state office for standardization, measurement and product testing, covering the period 1979-1980. The CEMA standing commission for standardization was created on 30 November 1963 and has as its basic objective the multilateral facilitation and organization of cooperation among the member countries in the field of unification of standards and technical documentation.

JAMAICA

EFFORTS TO SUPPLY WORKERS TO VENEZUELA NOTED

FL111235Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 8 Dec 78 pp 1, 33 FL

[Text] Jamaica and Venezuela are expected to finalize agreements next week on a contract for Jamaican workers to be employed in various sectors of the Venezuelan community. Labour Minister William Isaacs leaves this afternoon at the head of a six-man mission to Caracas, which is expected to return next week with a signed agreement for Jamaican men and women to be employed in Venezuela.

No indication of the amount of workers who would be required under the programme, tentatively scheduled to start early next year, was given by Mr Isaacs in making the announcement yesterday. However, he said that he had received inquiries from two Venezuelan farms which were seeking some 900 farm workers, especially in cane cultivation, during his visit last month. Mr Isaacs also noted that already some 300,000 Colombians were employed in Venezuela, as the country found it extremely difficult to provide the labour force required to carry out major and minor programmes; a likely effect of the Venezuelan economy's bouyancy owing to its oil production. Research was started in Venezuela this week into the requirements for Jamaican farm workers, carpenters, mechanics, sheet metal workers, electricians, drivers, masons, plumbers and domestic workers.

Mr Isaacs went to Venezuela on November 25, and during a one-week stay held discussions with the Venezuelan minister of labour, Senor Gabaldon; Senora Gladys Trejo, director of the Human Resource and Selective Immigration Department in Caracas; Mr Francois Vehlis, director general of the international cooperative; Dr Carlos Rincones, president of the Associated Chambers of Commerce; and Mr Jose Arnal, secretary of the Venezuelan Cane Farmers' Association. The discussions were centered on the possibilities of Venezuela opening up to Jamaican labourers in view of the island's serious unemployment problem. "I became very optimistic after speaking to the Venezuelans," the minister said. "My worries were the wages, which might not be as favourable as those paid in North America, and the language. I told them we were very concerned that women be included, because I think this is one of our greatest areas of need. Often we can find some sidewalk, gully construction and other similar forms of employment to ease the situation among the men, but my heart bleeds for the women, I told them," the minister said.

In view of this, an agreement was reached with the Human Resource and Selective Immigration Department of the Venezuelan Government, that the research on the need for Jamaican workers which is being carried out in Venezuela this week, would also include the need for women, mainly in the area of domestics. "We have already agreed that we would tie up the whole matter within three weeks from my November visit," Mr Isaacs said.

Questioned about the possible reaction of the new Venezuelan president and his administration to the discussions which began under the regime of former President Senor Carlos Andres Perez, Mr Isaacs said: "I did question them about that and they said that there would be no change in the policy, because the need was and still existed for additional labourers. They have used foreigners before but not on a government to government agreement." He stated that liaison officers would be provided to work alongside the Jamaican workers to overcome the language problem.

Expected to leave with the minister are Mr Tony Johnson, executive director of the Private Sector Organization of Jamaica [PSOJ]; Mr Hepburn Sinclair, also of the PSOJ; Mr Ted Warmington, president of the Master Builders' Association of Jamaica; Mr Probyn Aitken, permanent secretary of the Ministry of Labour and Miss Daphnie Adams, interpreter. Mr Harry Edwards, North American farm work programme liaison officer, will join the party in Miami.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

PRESIDENT GUZMAN MINIMIZES DIFFERENCES WITH PRD

PA082340Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 2112 GMT 8 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Santo Domingo, 8 Dec (EFE)--Dominican President Antonio Guzman admitted today that there has been some friction among the leaders of the Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD) but noted that nothing and no one will make him break with his party, which put him in government. In an obvious reference to recent statements made by PRD President Senator Salvador Jorge Blanco, Guzman minimized the importance of differences by stating that they do not represent a serious problem and that they will not alter his relations with the PRD.

Jorge Blanco said recently that the Venezuelan election should serve as an example for Dominicans, and especially the government, because the Venezuelan election made it evident how an election can be lost if the administration breaks with the party that took it to power.

President Guzman admitted that his victory was the product of a giant effort on the part of the men and women of his party but noted that he hopes to establish an administration for all Dominicans, thus hinting that he will not govern with men from his party only. From the very moment that Guzman assumed the presidency on 16 August there has been unhappiness in PRD ranks because the president has chosen only a few PRD members as his ministers. So far, only 2 of the 13 ministers of state are PRD militants. Thousands of former government employees have been replaced on direct orders from the presidential office in the past few weeks. The replacements have continued despite promises of a Christmas truce.

GUYANA

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PTOLEMY REID COMMENTS ON JONESTOWN

PA100329Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 2120 GMT 9 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Georgetown, 9 Dec (EFE)--Guyanese Deputy Prime Minister Ptolemy Reid said today, Sunday [as received], that the events which took place on 18 November in the Jonestown camp will make the Guyanese Government "study more carefully all applications for entering the country, including applications from religious organizations."

Reid said that the death of more than 900 North Americans in his country's jungle will not affect U.S.-Guyanese relations. With regard to the arms found by authorities in the agricultural community led by the late Jim Jones, the Guyanese leader said that the possession of arms was a "major offense" against his country. He added, however, that considering the site of the camp of the "People's Temple" sect--in the midst of a thick junge close to the border with Venezuela--it is very possible that the arms were introduced illegally.

Reverend Jones had requested permission to establish an agricultural colony and to promote agriculture in the country, a matter of basic interest to the authorities, Reid said.

Reid stated: None of the inspections by our officials determined that agricultural activities were not taking place in the commune. Otherwise, he would have withdrawn the permission that had been granted. The abandoned Jonestown camp could be used in the near future by the Guyanese Government to colonize the area.